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Council proposes new standards for honors

By R. Jon Baronowski

The Educational Council is prepared to present the faculty with a proposal to alter the manner in which academic honors are calculated. The change would represent a shift from a system based on grade point average (GPA) to one based on percentages.

The Student Government Association (SGA) will consider a resolution this weekend that would ask the faculty to reject this plan as unfair and conducive to unnecessary competition.

Under the current system, any student who attains a 3.1 GPA for a semester is named to the Dean's List while 3.5 is worthy of College Scholar. At graduation, students receiving *cum laude* must have a cumulative GPA of 3.1, while those with a 3.5 earn *magna cum laude* and those with a 3.7 achieve *summa cum laude*.

The proposed system would award College Scholar to the top 10 percent of the students each semester, and place the next 25 percent on the Dean's List. The scale for *summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude* and *cum laude* will be awarded to the top five percent, the next 10 percent and the following 20 percent, respectively.

Last spring, over 63 percent of the graduating class received *cum laude*, *magna cum laude* or *summa cum laude* accolades. Furthermore, in recent years, over 20 percent of students a semester have been named College Scholars, with 22 to 25 percent making the Dean's List.

Concern has arisen that, due to these high numbers, academic recognition for Middlebury students is too commonplace.

"With so many people being named, these honors become diluted," explained Ann Hanson, dean of students.

"At graduation last spring it was almost like a dishonor for those who didn't get honored," added Peter Schumer, chair of the Educational Council. "This isn't how it is supposed to be."

The SGA resolution, authored by Trystan Phifer '95, argues that the proposal would be unfair because of departmental disparities that presently exist in grading.

"The fact is that there are great differences in the percentage of As

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Ski patrol prepares for season

Alex Grossman

The Middlebury College Ski Patrollers are ready for anything.

Separation plan helps cut staff

By John Turner

A time of restructuring in many of the college's staff divisions began this week as 41 Middlebury College employees accepted a separation package initially presented in September.

The college offered employees the option of leaving the college on March 15, either with an extended benefits package or an opportunity to be rehired after training for a new position. Tom Corbin, Assistant Treasurer and Acting Director of Human Resources, indicated that the college was very pleased with the results of the program. Corbin said that approximately twenty of those positions will be refilled, which means that twenty would be eliminated. Although the original goal of the program was the reduction of twenty-five staff positions, there will not be an active attempt to eliminate other positions at this time.

Michael Warner, president of the Staff Council, explained that the next four months will be both an "anxious and exciting time." During this time, staff divisions will grapple with the changes that will come from a reduction in employees, and will have an opportunity to increase the efficiency of their departments. Warner said that the goal "is not to simply divide work among those left behind. Rather, we will ask, are there ways to do what we do with fewer people?" Though much of the burden of change will fall "on the shoulders of the staff, it is an opportunity for employees to have a say about their future." Some employees might desire to change jobs on campus and will have an opportunity to do so because of the many openings.

Corbin felt that there would be a minimal impact, if any, on the services the college offers. The numbers of staff leaving are spread quite evenly throughout the different work areas of the college, and if needed, temporary workers could be hired. Corbin stressed the advantages of the program. "Nor-

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SGA reopens discussion on social house bill

By Katie Roberts

After being tabled four weeks ago by its authors, the heavily debated social house bill was again brought to the Student Government Association (SGA) floor for debate last Sunday.

The broader purpose of the bill is to secure the future of the social houses and solidify support of the houses by the administration, but its statement on member selection is the bill's most controversial point.

The bill, authored by Sarah Kroon '96, Heather Dorf '94 and Jake Citrin '94, initially states that "at the end of the rush period, houses may select a group of students to join their particular house from the pool of applicants." The bill now has a new amendment which addresses the question of the selection of new members during rush, seen as the toughest issue in the bill by its authors.

The amendment outlines the criteria for selection of new members, stating that the "consideration for admission to the houses [begins] with attendance at the first rush meeting. All houses are required to observe the college guidelines for membership. Houses are forbidden to discriminate on the basis of sex, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation or physical ability...Each house is expected to develop a system for selection that is based on the democratic principles of a simple majority."

"Social Houses were created from the beginning to be open to all students, so all have the ability to be members...eligibility is the key," explained Citrin. The authors of the bill recognized that selection must be dealt with on both a quantitative and qualitative level. When creating a new pledge class, size is an important consideration, but above all, the authors want to ensure that the prospective members will care about the house itself, contribute to its livelihood and not just be "dead weight."

Citrin believes this is "vitally important to the survival of the houses," since it is the students who will contribute to the house to make it a better place. The authors view selectivity as the vehicle through which the diversity of the house is secured, since it ensures that members are interested in the deeper issues of the house. Above all, they do not want the houses to become "self-perpetuating cliques." Dorf concluded from a poll she conducted that the membership in the houses is very diverse, including a wide variety of religious and social backgrounds and interests. The authors believe the bill will both promote and protect this diversity.

The characteristics which will

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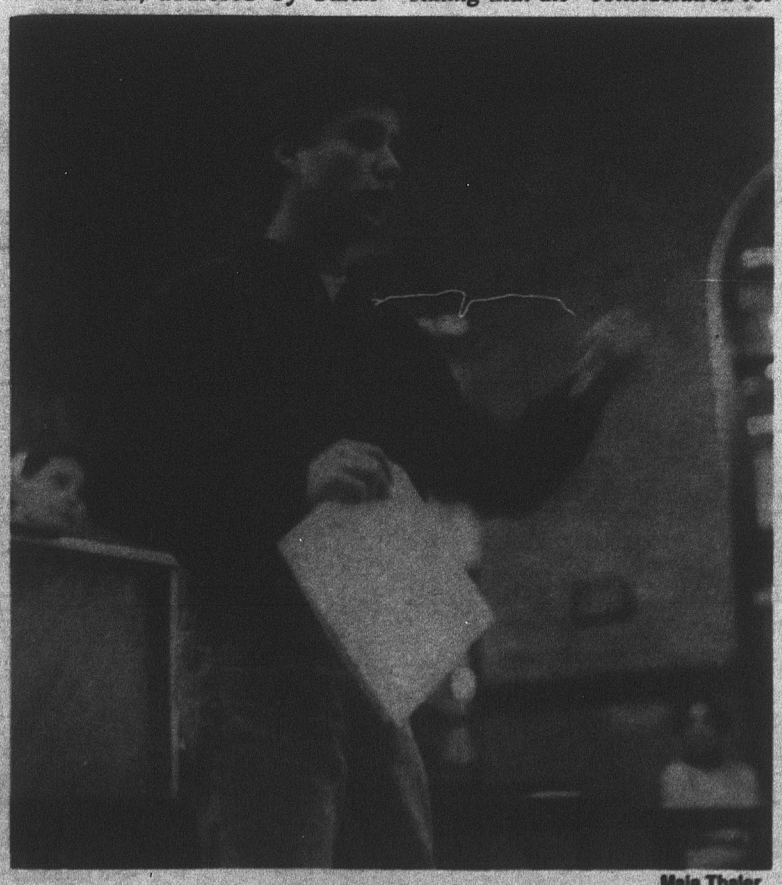

Maja Thaler

Jake Citrin '94, an author of the social house bill, tries to convince an assembly that needed little convincing.

SCC begins operation

By Janine Zacharia

Middlebury hosted the first conference of the newly created Small College Consortium (SCC) this weekend. Based on the structure of the already existing Ivy Council created in November 1992, which serves as a network for the student governments at Ivy League schools, the SCC will serve as an intercollegiate student government organization of between 10 and 14 small New England liberal arts schools.

Organized by William Dobson '94, this first meeting brought together enthusiastic student government presidents and vice presidents from five New England liberal arts colleges which included: Middlebury, Amherst, Williams, Colby and Wesleyan.

Student Government Association (SGA) President, Brendan O'Leary '94 said he thought it was a "great first conference." He added, "I learned that a lot of the things we're facing, a lot of schools have already gone through."

According to Dobson, Friday night served as the "most important part of the conference." There was approximately an hour and a half of

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First a lawsuit, then a brawl

Four days after a former Yale University medical school development official announced that she was suing Yale over sex discrimination, the school's public relations officer started a fight with the former official during an awards ceremony in Washington.

Ann Diamond, who was an associate development director in the medical school until being fired last month, was receiving an award from the American Association of Medical Colleges. Last Friday she had announced plans to sue Yale because she said she was denied promotions because of her gender. Diamond had filed a grievance last year charging sex discrimination, but officials dismissed her case without hearing her complaints or informing her about their actions.

Ironically, after being fired for her poor work, Diamond was in Washington to receive an award for outstanding job performance. Following the award presentation, Simon Persons, Yale's public relations officer, attempted to grab the award out of Diamond's hand. Persons then pushed Michelle Peters, Diamond's sister, who was recording the scene with a video camera. During the scuffle, Diamond's mother fell and broke her collarbone. "The Diamonds approached with menacing voice and said, 'I'm going to take this from you Simon,'" Peters said. A security worker at the Capitol Hilton, the site of the ceremony, described the altercation as a "full fight." Richard Levin, Yale's president, called the event "bizarre."

Newspapers stolen by censor

A string of thefts have plagued controversial newspapers on campuses across the country this fall. Following events at the University of Pennsylvania last April, where dozens of black students stole an entire press run of the *Daily Pennsylvanian* to protest a conservative column, a rash of related incidents has occurred at various colleges and universities.

Recently, 10,000 copies of the *Diamondback*, the University of Maryland's (UM) student newspaper, were stolen under similar circumstances. The students who took the papers left fliers behind saying, "Due to its racist nature, the *Diamondback* will not be available today — read a book!"

One complaint that triggered the theft at UM was that not enough minority models were featured in a recent fashion spread. A second complaint was that an article describing the deaths of three black students in a summer highway accident was not believed to convey a proper sense of tragedy. Finally, students complained that coverage of a black fraternity accused of hazing was too harsh and judgmental.

The editor of the paper says that all of the charges are unfounded — that the charges against the fraternity, for instance, were true, shown by a five-year suspension given to the fraternity by the college. Additionally, before being hired, the editor had committed the paper to hiring more minority staff. William Kirwan, president of UM, condemned the theft and said campus police are on the trail of students suspected in the case. Similar events have occurred at Penn State, the University of Florida, the University of Michigan and Dartmouth. At Penn State and Michigan, thieves torched large numbers of stolen newspapers. The events have touched off debate over whether or not these actions are acceptable protest or merely criminal behavior.

Sources: Boston Globe, U.S. News and World Report, The Chronicle of Higher Education

Global to Local

By Robert Schlesinger

President bets his clout on NAFTA

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was scheduled to be voted upon by the House of Representatives on Wednesday. The result of the vote was still too close to predict at press time, but it is undeniably one of the more important votes of the year, and possibly of the Clinton presidency.

If passed by both the House and Senate (it is not expected to encounter much trouble in the Senate if it passes the House), NAFTA will go into effect on January 1, 1994, phasing out tariffs between the United States, Canada and Mexico.

The push for NAFTA has resulted in the largest lobbying effort in U.S. history, a combination of U.S. big business and the Mexican government. NAFTA was still in danger of losing, however, leaving many to wonder why.

The answer lies partly with the sharp criticism of Ross Perot, who warned of that sucking sound as millions of jobs go south.

Another reason is that it is a hard policy to sell to voters in congressional districts. Both proponents and opponents agree that the positive effects would be spread over the country and will occur over the long term.

The negative effects — short term loss of jobs — will be felt tangibly, and at the local level, where elections are decided. Many representatives have said that they understand the long term benefits, but cannot vote for it because jobs would be lost in their districts.

Clinton fully weighed in late in the game, but has staked his presidency on this vote and has been lobbying the undecided members of Congress very hard. He has attacked the opposition for jingoism in their criticism of Mexico, but he and his allies have played upon fear of German and Japanese investment in their attempts to rally support.

Whitman's election under cloud of controversy

The New Jersey governor-elect Christine Todd Whitman's victory may be in jeopardy. A federal judge has called for a campaign adviser of Whitman's to answer questions about his statement that their campaign spent money to suppress black votes.

Edward J. Rollins, Whitman's campaign adviser for the last weeks of her campaign, told reporters last Tuesday that the Whitman campaign paid black ministers not to endorse Democratic incumbent Jim Florio or encourage them to vote in the election.

Rollins has since retracted his statement, and Whitman has flatly denied that it occurred, but Rollins' original statement has brought public outcry.

The money came from the Republican party's $500,000 in "walk around money," which campaigns can legally use to go out and encourage people to vote.

Rollins is "anxious to get the story out," said his lawyer and will deny that the Whitman campaign attempted to suppress black votes.

The Democratic state and national committees are calling for the testimony of campaign workers to find out whether Rollin's original statement is true, and if so, they would call for the election to be held again.

State Senator and New Jersey State Democratic Chair Raymond Lesniak said, "We have Democratic party workers who were approached and accepted the payments, but we don't have those names yet." He would not discuss specific locations or the dollar amounts offered.

Whitman has been working hard on damage control, attacking the statements by Rollins as soon as they made the papers and demanding a retraction. She has been visiting black leaders and attended services at two black churches on Sunday.

Black ministers throughout the state have denounced Rollins and the attitude of politicians toward the black community.

Reverend Dr. William D. Watley said Rollins comments came from an "arrogance of whiteness that makes them feel they can say what they will about the African American community without any accountability."

MUHS captures state title

Middlebury Union High School rebounded from a 1-8 finish a year ago to capture the Division I State Football Championship this Saturday.

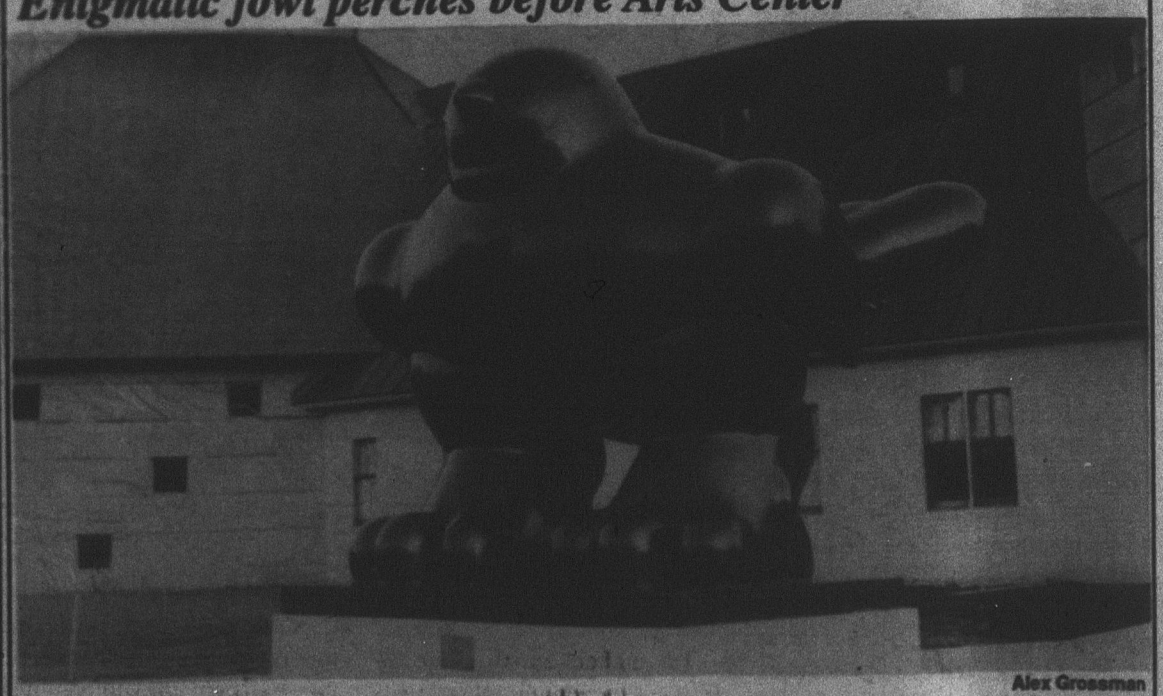
Overcoming the Hornets of Essex Junction, the Tigers drew blood early in the game on a 17 yard scamper from Matt Daley. They added insurance in the second quarter as Daley booted a 30 yard field goal to end the game's scoring.

Middlebury turned in a strong effort on the defensive side, dominating the line of scrimmage with strong play from their linemen. That combined with the offensive leadership of Daley was too much for the Essex Junction juggernaut, which has turned in five Division I championships since it opened in 1970.

The win marks the first Division I championship for Middlebury in any sport since 1961.

Sources: New York Times, The Economist, Addison County Independent

Enigmatic fowl perches before Arts Center



Alex Grossman

The sculpture "Little Bird" was unveiled on Tuesday, prompting campus-wide response to the Botero piece. The bird will be on display for four months before continuing on to Chicago.

WRMC falls prey to technical problems

By Mary Maxham

WRMC, the Middlebury College radio station, has been temporarily shut down due to interference linked to its transmitter, located in the Gifford cupola.

During the week of Oct. 25, local radio and TV stations began experiencing interference and traced this interference to the general area at the top of the hill between Gifford and Proctor Halls. These stations contacted Buildings and Grounds who in turn contacted Jon Damour '94, the general manager of WRMC.

The local stations theorized that the interference was caused by one of three things: the WRMC transmitter, the new lightning arrestor system (a system of lightning rods installed in Gifford over the summer) or a student in Gifford with an FM booster that was too powerful.

On Wednesday, Nov. 10, Damour and engineers went up into the Gifford cupola and discovered that the transmitter was at least partially responsible for the interference. "We then shut [the transmitter] down to stop the interference and allow the other stations to broadcast, and also to allow the engineer to look at [the transmitter]," said Damour.

The lightning rods that were installed over the summer were placed in such a way that they must be rerouted by the lightning rod company in order to repair the transmitter.

On the top of the Gifford cupola one part of the transmitter is exposed to the weather. Damour and the engineers who inspected the transmitter believe that this exposure to the weather could have caused a corroded connection or knocked the transmitter out of tune. Damour surmised that if the problem was a result of the lightning rod installation it would have probably occurred during the summer.

Engineer Larry Meyer is examining the transmitter to determine the exact nature of the problem.

"We have tentative plans to be back on the air the Monday after Thanksgiving break, but everything is dependent on what the engineer finds and how long it will take to fix it," said Damour.

Alex Grossman

The broadcast booth of WRMC lays dormant and awaits the repair of the station's transmitter.

Bosnian refugees come to Vermont

By Liz Leyden

"I'm ashamed I am a human being because humans behave the way they do."

These words come from Ahmet, a Bosnian refugee resettled in Middlebury, speaking of the atrocities he experienced in a Serbian concentration camp. [Ahmet's name, and the names of the two other men who spoke Tuesday night at a press conference about their experiences in Bosnia, have been changed to protect families still in danger back home.]

Greg Supernovich, who has helped to organize the relocation, said that the men took a great risk speaking of the atrocities, but that "they feel they owe it to the dead, and hope once people know the truth, they will work to stop the war."

Before the war, the Muslims comprised 45 percent of the population of Bosnia, but now are forced into only 10 percent of the land. At the press conference, however, there were no war statistics or summaries, but rather human stories.

"It was very difficult...to be imprisoned because of my name. I was lucky to stay alive," Ahmet said, thanking the Red Cross in Geneva and everyone else responsible for his evacuation.

All three men had experienced the concentration camps. All three were beaten and tortured, and one was shot. At Omarska, one camp, Amir was with a group of about 20 men who were immediately taken off the bus and shot at. "All of a sudden, I felt a pain in my legs, and then hand, and then in my head...when I regained consciousness, I was in a pool of blood. Even today, I can recall that smell of blood."

He describes watching the death of a neighbor as Serb soldiers stood by laughing before he was taken away by the Red Cross. At the hospital, he knew two doctors, which he said helped to save his life. Amir emotionally recounted enduring an operation without anesthesia, and was afterwards told that only one in a million people could survive five bullet wounds. He flexed his hand and tapped his foot, pointing to his head, "I'm okay, I think."

But he wasn't always sure of this. Like the two other men, he recalls believing that he would go insane. They speak of the round-ups on the streets, where Muslims were harassed, beaten and robbed. Samir described watching an old woman shot by a sniper bullet as soldiers stabbed people through the eyes. The day they arrived at a camp was the last time he saw his mother.

Samir was placed in a work camp where the men were sent to dig trenches for soldiers in the mountains. Until he was transferred, he was with his brother, whom he has not seen in 15 months. "I'm out of touch with my brother now, and haven't seen my mother in 15 months...it's very hard for me to be here alone."

At the concentration camp he was at, he was also beaten after refusing to lie down in a canal. He was beaten so badly he became soaked in blood. The soldiers shoved a lit cigar into his mouth, forcing him to drink beer and eat food. These attacks were not limited to the Bosnians now in Middlebury. They spoke of the raping of women, the beating of children and the senseless violence. Ahmet recalled that the torturing and killing began the day after they arrived at Omarska, "...the next day there was roll call. The ones that were called never came back...those who did, did not have one spot on their bodies not covered with bruises or blood. We tried to help by wetting our shirts and putting them on their bodies; it didn't help much, but we had to do something."

The stories of violence continue, but as Amir said, "It's difficult to find the words to describe what we lived through...if we were to tell everything, there would be no end." The men thanked everyone who played a part in their resettlement, but appealed for something to be done. Amir ended his story about being shot, too upset to go on, but emphasizing "spread the word of what can happen. Make sure this doesn't happen to anyone else."

Separation plan helps to cut staff

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mally, when someone decides to leave the college, he does so with two week's notice." Under this program, there are four months to ensure a smooth transition.

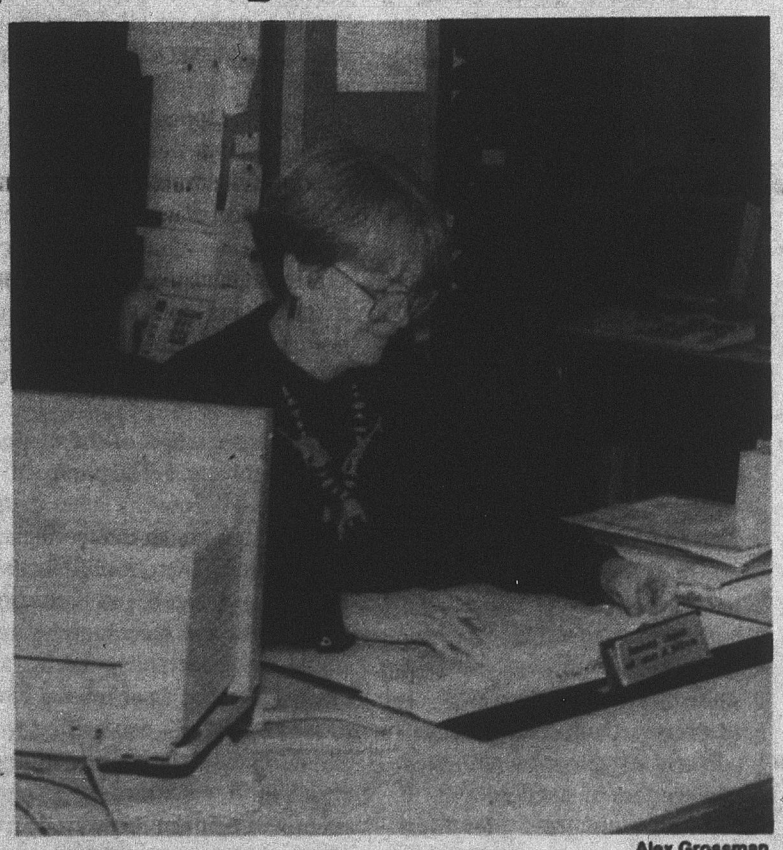
Several methods will be used to help the restructuring process. Thirty staff members have been appointed as "team leaders" who will guide the transition in their departments, and have recently received training for this phase of the process. Each division will meet, discuss the implications of those leaving, and plan ways to adjust to upcoming changes.

Corbin saw opportunities for students to become involved in the restructuring. For example, some employees will be leaving dining services, and the restructuring period could be a time for students to offer input and suggestions on how to improve the operation of the dining halls.

Warner felt that employees who accepted the college's offer "made the right choice," and that the package was "very generous." Departing employees will receive two weeks compensation for every year they have worked at the college, with special incentives for long-term employees. Additionally, the college offered an extension of health care benefits and the opportunity for some employees to purchase future health insurance.

The separation program was part of a ten-year plan charting a future of fewer staff, faculty and students. Corbin said this is the beginning of a process of evolution in many areas.

He explained, "We can look at all the work each department does and ask if it is vital and if we need it." The result of this evolution, he said, will be a more efficient and productive college staff.



Alex Grossman

Staff reductions due to the voluntary separation plan may affect several areas in the college, including the library.

SGA reopens discussion on bill

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be determining factors in the pledges' acceptance into the house are the attempts of the rushees to meet members of the house and to understand the deeper concerns of the house. Other qualities on which the students may be judged may be "dedication, strength of character, academic commitment and enthusiasm." As for the numbers, Citrin said, "If 100 people meet these guidelines, 100 might get in [to the house]."

The authors asked fellow students and the administration to trust the members of the houses to be unbiased and fair during the selection process and to adhere to the principles established in the amendment.

While they acknowledged that rejection from a house can be painful, the authors felt that this news would be relayed to the students with the same care and concern which was used throughout the selection process. Representative Rick Balakier '94 felt that the administration often seems to be trying to establish a "fairy tale world" where rejection does not exist.

Students pointed out that rejection is a natural part of the college process, beginning with admittance to the college itself and including selection for groups such as the Dissipated Eight or the Otter Nonsense Players. However, Dean of Students Ann Hanson argued that the qualifications required by groups such as these were easier to explain and put down on paper.

Right now Hanson's main concern is a coordination of the handbook policy and what is actually being practiced. "I would like to be in a position of having the Social Houses follow the regulations of the handbook, so it's important that we clarify expectations so we all have some understanding of what's going on," said Hanson. The SGA will vote on the bill and its amendment at next week's meeting, after the delegates conduct the necessary poll of their constituents.

Review of judicial system goes on

By Noelle Campagna

Following up their discussion last week, the Community Council met Monday to further consider proposed revisions of the Student Judicial Council.

The main issue concerned the role of the Judicial Council faculty advisor on the annual selection committee which chooses new members.

While there was a general consensus that the interaction of the faculty advisor was essential to the selection of a highly qualified and efficient council, people disagreed as to whether or not the advisor should have voting power.

Resistance to allowing the advisor to vote was based on the principle of maintaining a student majority on the selection committee, which is currently composed of two student members and one faculty member of the Community Council.

In order to alleviate this problem, it was then proposed that the two students from Judicial Council who presently sit on the selection committee as advisors also get voting rights. This idea was not accepted due to the fear of a self-perpetuating council.

Brent Cossrow, who sat on the council last year, urged the Community Council to do all it could to ensure that the faculty advisor and members of the Judicial Council have a say in the selection process.

In the end, though, an amendment was accepted that kept the three Community Council members as voting members of the selection committee and stipulated that the faculty advisor and two student judicial members would sit in as advisors.

The next issue that came up for discussion Monday was brought up by Won Kim '94, co-chair of the Student Judicial Council. He proposed that open hearings should be agreed upon by both the accused and accuser before it was made open. Previously, only the person charged needed to make the request. Kim's intentions were to show "sensitivity to both parties involved."

Some members, however, speculated that this could lead to the elimination of open hearings completely. In the past six years only one open hearing has been held, and this added stipulation could very possibly eliminate them.

The rights of the accused also entered into the discussion since some argued that this amendment would in fact be taking away one of those rights. Despite this argument the change in the open hearing system was approved by the Community Council, 8-1-6.

The final major point discussed was that concerning the dean of students' ability to retain jurisdiction in sensitive situations. Presently, if the dean makes the decision to retain jurisdiction and the faculty advisor and chair of the judicial council disagree, the decision moves up to the vice president for student affairs, supposedly a non-partial party. The argument revolved around the "spirit of the document."

Consistently, the guidelines have encouraged the input of a faculty member, an administrator and a student in all decisions. In response to this, a proposal was made that in the future, if both the advisor and the chair of the council disagree with the dean of students, the student judicial council will have jurisdiction at the request of the accused. The issue was left unresolved and will be discussed further at next week's meeting.

Peterson receives award

Alex Grossman

The Perkins Teaching Award was presented to William Peterson of the Mathematics Department on Monday. The ceremony was held in the Chateau's Grand Salon and was well attended.

Council proposes new standards for honors

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and Bs given out from department to department," states the resolution. "A change in honors requirements from a basis of GPA to one of percentages, without a corresponding change in the disparity of the grades distributed, leaves students on unequal footing in a system where they are forced to compete with one another."

Phifer backs up her resolution with charts illustrating that last spring some departments had grade averages as high as 3.6 while others were below 3.0.

"Given the system we're working with," she said, "I don't think percentages are going to work. Something's got to give, but I'm not sure this change is in the right direction."

Educational Council members approved the proposal unanimously and defend the plan as the best way to remedy a situation in which far too many students were receiving honors.

"We feel that this will make the honors much more meaningful than an arbitrary GPA," said Schumer.

Doug Rogers '95, a member of the Educational Council, agreed that the proposal represented an improvement to an already unjust process. "The system now discriminates against natural science majors [who have traditionally lower GPA's]," he said.

Rogers explained that there are other options, but said that they each have their shortcomings.

"One other way would be to do the honors by division, but this creates a lot of problems. First-years usually have no majors...Joint majors and interdisciplinary majors don't fall into any division and there are still GPA differences within the divisions," said Rogers.

The resolution before the SGA also raises the concern that making honors percentage-based could create "a set of circumstances in which students are competing with each other rather than seeking to achieve personal excellence within an established set of standards."

Shumer disagreed with this assessment, saying that "as far as competition, [the educational council] felt the opposite. If a student knows the GPA they need and know they'll need a certain grade, they'll be more likely to grub for grades. If it's done by percentages everyone will just work to the best of their ability," said Schumer. Rogers added, "It seems to me that the proposal is the best thing that we can do. I don't see a better option at the time."

At the end of Phifer's resolution, there is a call for a delay in any decision until more data can be gathered. "The ad hoc committee that worked on this put in a lot of time, but...I think they ought to at least reconsider the proposal," she said. The SGA will discuss the resolution at this week's meeting in hopes that if it passes, it can be presented before the Dec. 13 faculty meeting.

SCC begins operation

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"brainstorming on all different issues that intersected on our campuses."

It became apparent from Friday's discussion that financial issues relating to student aid and school budgetary concerns were of the highest priority.

Throughout the weekend, participants developed a clear resolution which outlined the primary short term and long term goals of the SCC.

The basic tenets of the conference are threefold. The prospective members will convene in the spring in order to ratify an intercollegiate constitution. Then, issues including college budgets and financing, harassment and speech codes and social or residential systems, already identified as of mutual concerned at this fall's conference, will be addressed at the spring meeting. In addition, each student government will confirm its desire to exchange information and documents of interest.

Dudley Winthrop '94, SGA vice president, stated that it was clear from the "interesting" discussions during the conference that there are "things to be learned about the SGA assembly and how to make it better."

Winthrop also observed that "the committee structure here at Middlebury is far superior than at any other school," but that faculty/student relations here at Middlebury are poor compared to other colleges.

O'Leary too was "impressed with the level of faculty/student interaction at other schools," and with the effectiveness of the committee structure at Middlebury. O'Leary also observed that our student government was sizably larger than those at other schools and that this may be something which needs to be reevaluated.

Winter Term, an issue that Middlebury faculty and students tend to disagree on, and which is repeatedly debated among faculty and in the SGA, was one of several topics discussed on Saturday.

The President of Colby, a college which works on the same 4-1-4 semester system as Middlebury, said that there are no complaints on her campus by either faculty or students regarding Winter Term. "People love it," she said. It is viewed by faculty at Colby as an opportunity to teach courses on their specialty in a pressure-free environment.

In addition to serving as a useful forum for discussing campus issues at a bi-annual meeting, the SCC hopes to develop a system through which correspondence can carry-out throughout the year.

Several colleges also expressed the long term goal of mobilizing SCC members to address education-related legislation at the national level.

Dobson was pleased with the results of this fall's pilot conference. The SCC, he said, is "no longer an idea that just exists at Middlebury. It has been enthusiastically accepted at other schools." Throughout the weekend, Dobson emphasized the need for a "joint partnership" in order to facilitate the success of the consortium.

The next conference is tentatively planned to take place in late February at Amherst College. At this meeting, the agenda will focus on electing a steering committee and a president and vice president of the SCC, writing a constitution for the organization and discussing two or three pre-negotiated issues of primary interest to members of the consortium.

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•Eclectic fine wines, cheeses, and patés
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•Ben & Jerry's
•Crabtree and Evelyn
•Wolferman's English Muffins
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•Champlain chocolates, as well as chocolate by Lindt, Perugina, and Droste
•The Finest Cookware and Accessories for Entertaining at Home, names like: Cuisinart-Le Creuset-Braun- Krups

Ask us about our DINNER-TO-GO-MENU
Fast, healthy, & Delicious
Family Sized soups, meat &veggie chilis, veggie lasagne, salads, Putney Pasta and Sauces

Just Call Or Stop By

Middlebury needs a coup to dethrone haughty economics

Sticks and stones may break my bones, but silly little words in *The Campus* could never prevent me from writing. So here I go.

Having thoroughly exhausted the health care issue and having thoroughly been exhausted by my playful mêlée with Mr. Savodnik, I must now set my sights on a new, larger — even if infinitely more dangerous — game.

The task I am here undertaking is of immense proportions and requires the participation of only the strongest willed. But the danger is of such a kind, and so imminent, that I find the idea of inaction too terrifying to consider.

What am I talking about? Have you not guessed? You blind ones. You remind me of sheep that unwittingly follow each other off the end of a cliff without the slightest appeal to the faculty of reason or foresight. I am talking of nothing short of the debasement of the human intellect, nothing short of the denigration of philosophy and all that is noble. In short, I am talking of the alleged triumph of economics as a major on this campus.

Economics; the word alone is enough to provoke a churning in the lowest lying regions of my bowels. Economics: that dark, dismal and altogether most depressing of subjects has come to assume (or believe that it assumes) a foremost role as a major on this campus, while in the meantime the other departments, which have defined and gathered the greatest ponderers of human existence since the beginning of time (i.e. classics, religion, philosophy and political philosophy -author's note: especially political philosophy) have stood by complacently doing nothing but contemplating and justifying this process — which dates back at least to the so-called Glorious Revolution.

And what of the study of politics? The department today goes under the name of political science. There is no greater oxymoron (juxtaposition of opposites) than political science. To assert that politics is in some way scientific is to imply that human nature can be known empirically, can be studied under a microscope. This formula approach to life, this Darwinian view of man, I blame on you, the economists, on you, the teachers of utilitarianism.

What does your education consist of? You come to college to study a couple of graphs so you can get an MBA and eventually become a CEO. You go through the motions of life, never having lived, that is, thought. You have become part of a formula — the most compartmentalized type — never having pondered the formula itself.

Or perhaps you feel that the graphs are your Bibles, your great books. If so, how sadly deluded you stand in relation to a view of the whole. You say you want a practical example. Tell me, if economics is all that you claim, why is the British economy so second rate even though Britain has more Nobel laureate economists than any other nation? An economist is to economics like a critic is to art; that is, he comments on it, discusses it and can analyze it, but always after the fact. He reacts but cannot initiate. And thus, the economist is a pleasant superfluity to our community and, more broadly, to our society.

Do not be fooled. On this campus, as in our nation, economists are revered as priests once were (the only difference being that people formerly had some insight into their choice of whom to adulate). This air of omniscience is a mask worn by the most profoundly shallow "professional" ensemble that has ever roamed this planet. The life of economic man is nothing but "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short."

On this campus, as in our nation, economists are revered as priests once were...The life of economic man is nothing but "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short."

But if, as has elsewhere been claimed, man is political by nature, then we are in need of a new type of order on this campus. What, pray tell, Nick, have you in mind? It is time for the philosopher to be king. What? But we have no king.

First then, we must abolish the highly functional institution of president (I hope President McCardell will see that there is nothing personal in this). Next, we would establish a triumvirate consisting of one person chosen from the "higher" majors (i.e. religion, classics, philosophy and political philosophy).

But, you will wonder not mistakenly, there can only be three people in a triumvirate whereas we have four "higher" majors. That is because one person from one of the four majors will be made king/queen. Yes, by Jove, a return to monarchical rule. A true monarch through whom the whole campus, not least of all the economists, will be directed.

And thus the economists will be relegated, as it was originally, to their true subservient position to political philosophy.

Nick Sakellarios '94

Scholarship aids grateful student

Dear President McCardell,

I write this letter to thank you and the Open Society Scholars Fund (OSSF) for once more extending your hands of support to us. My particular thanks go to those students at Middlebury College who labor out of nothing, getting small jobs to ensure that I am at school. I wish I could talk to them individually, face to face, and express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude.

This letter is also to inform my sponsors about me and generally what is happening around the country. I had planned to write it after my exams in June, but the arrival of the OSSF information forms led me to take time off my academic work.

I am the seventh child out of nine children, of six boys and three girls. All my sisters are married; my eldest brother passed away in 1982, leaving a wife and a baby. My other brothers are single except for one, who is married with four kids. My father passed away in 1987 because of cancer. My mother is a pensioner.

I am presently doing my final year in B.Sc. (civil) engineering as you might know. It seems to be a lot heavier than other years, but I am positive about it. I have joined the aerobics and weightlifting club, tennis and squash clubs, and I am a member of the ballroom dancing club. I am also in the executive committee of the Christian Action Fellowship heading the social action portfolio. I am also involved in the education subcommittee in my residence.

I decided on joining the subcommittee because last year there was a 70 percent failure rate in our residence. It opened last year for the first year, so there were a lot of new students. Part of the education subcommittee's task is to help new students to acclimatize to university life, assisting them with their tutorials, etc.

Last year (1992), I was doing third year, [but] my department allowed me to do a fourth year investigation project. It is a nine-month project, where the university gives students a wide range of choices. Together with a fellow student, Mr. Molepo, who is an engineer now, we suggested to our professor to take "Community Participation in Townships Development project," which we did.

At the end of each year, the department chooses about four students who have the best projects for presentation to an extended audience of outside consulting engineers, staff and fellow students. Our project was one of the four projects chosen. I enclose a paper we presented, as presented.

Again, last year, I was awarded the Ford Foundation Research Internship Scheme, whose objective is to try to introduce interns to research as a possible career after they complete their first university degree. It is awarded to 'promising black students.' When I was working on this scheme in December last year, the head of my department made me an offer to do master's next year. I chose to do a research titled "Solid Waste Disposal and Management in Developing Communities," which I started in February, not on a journal basis though. I submitted my project proposals in April. I have been invited by the Foundation for Research Development to present a paper on June 1, 1993, in Pretoria (about 100 km from my university) on the conference entitled "Optimization of Energy Recovery and Pollution Control for Sanitary Landfills."

(continued on page 7)

Foul fan language hurts hockey team and college

I often read that peer pressure is an effective way to deal with and eliminate unwarranted behavior, and I write to enlist the hockey fans' support in controlling and eliminating coarse behavior at our hockey games.

Last Saturday afternoon I eagerly anticipated the first men's varsity hockey game. Unfortunately, "he" was in attendance again. You know, the loudmouthed fan who feels it necessary to increase his "self-esteem" by verbally harassing the opposing goaltender. Each year this happens, and I become more and more embarrassed. It seems the opposing teams' goaltenders arrive in our midst having never had a sister and certainly not a mother, since the crude four-letter language describing the goaltender largely refers to his mother, sister or some part of one's genitals.

I was standing near a mother and father of a Princeton player who had driven down from Montreal to enjoy the game. She moved several times to escape the profanity and finally left the building. Although I was grateful that our security arrived on the scene and controlled the situation, I was ashamed that I had not spoken to the young man and his friends. Next time, if necessary, I intend to.

Sometimes, for whatever reason, people do not control themselves, and I ask that you, the hockey fans, have the courage to step up and ask your peers not to embarrass the college and, more importantly, themselves.

Our team is a class act and they deserve to be supported by a class act.

George W. Whitney, Jr.
Director of Operations

Editorial

Proposal to alter honors fundamentally flawed

The system of awarding academic honors at Middlebury needs to be adjusted. Last May, 63 percent of the graduating class received *cum laude* recognition or better. As a result, a large number of students who finished their college careers with below average grades were nevertheless honored for their "academic achievement." If the college is interested in enhancing its reputation, this situation clearly must change.

At the same time, we must be careful not to rush into any "quick fix" solutions, which may reduce the outrageous numbers, but hurt both individual students and the long term good of the institution.

Unfortunately, this type of shock therapy has been adopted by the Educational Council in its proposal to limit honors to the top 35 percent of graduating seniors in 1996.

The problem with adopting such a system is that students in certain disciplines will have a distinct advantage over others. While students in the music department, which had a median grade point average (GPA) last spring of 3.60, could make the cut with an average performance, students studying biology, where the median GPA was 2.84, could perform far above the norm and receive no recognition.

This Sunday, Trystan Phifer '95 will propose a resolution to the Student Government Association (SGA) that recognizes the problem and advises the faculty to reject the Educational Council's proposal. Phifer's contention that more research needs to be done, and a better solution agreed upon, is well founded.

While it is true that the present system, in which students earn academic honors by achieving a set GPA, also favors those in certain departments, at least students know where they stand. For example, someone in the natural sciences may have a very difficult time getting a 3.5, but if that individual succeeds, *magna cum laude* recognition is guaranteed upon graduation. Under the proposed system, that same student may perform just as well, but must count on students in other departments to do poorly in order to receive the same honor.

Phifer correctly concludes that this would foster "a set of circumstances in which students are competing with each other rather than seeking to achieve personal excellence within an established set of standards." While competition in and of itself may not be bad, the faculty must recognize that at the present time, the playing field is far from level.

The situation that must be remedied, before the issue of academic honors can be solved, is the large disparity in grading practices between departments. While it will never be feasible to make all the average GPAs the same, certainly the large gaps, like those that exist between the arts and the natural sciences, can be closed. Until that is accomplished, however, a drastic reduction in honors, which would adversely affect a great number of students in select departments, should be discouraged.

This still leaves the college with a problem. Although the Educational Council's suggestion goes too far, something has to be done to make the honors system more respectable in the short term. Raising the GPA requirements, both for graduation honors and semester honors, seems to be the best answer. Those in certain disciplines will still suffer to some degree, but at least they will be able to gauge their performance without waiting to see how students in other departments are being graded.

The students and the faculty must both take a close look at the changes being proposed by the Educational Council, and recognize that there may be better alternatives. If they fail to do so, Phifer may be right in fearing that the academic environment at Middlebury will be fundamentally changed.

The Middlebury Campus

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Let us love earth rather than cement

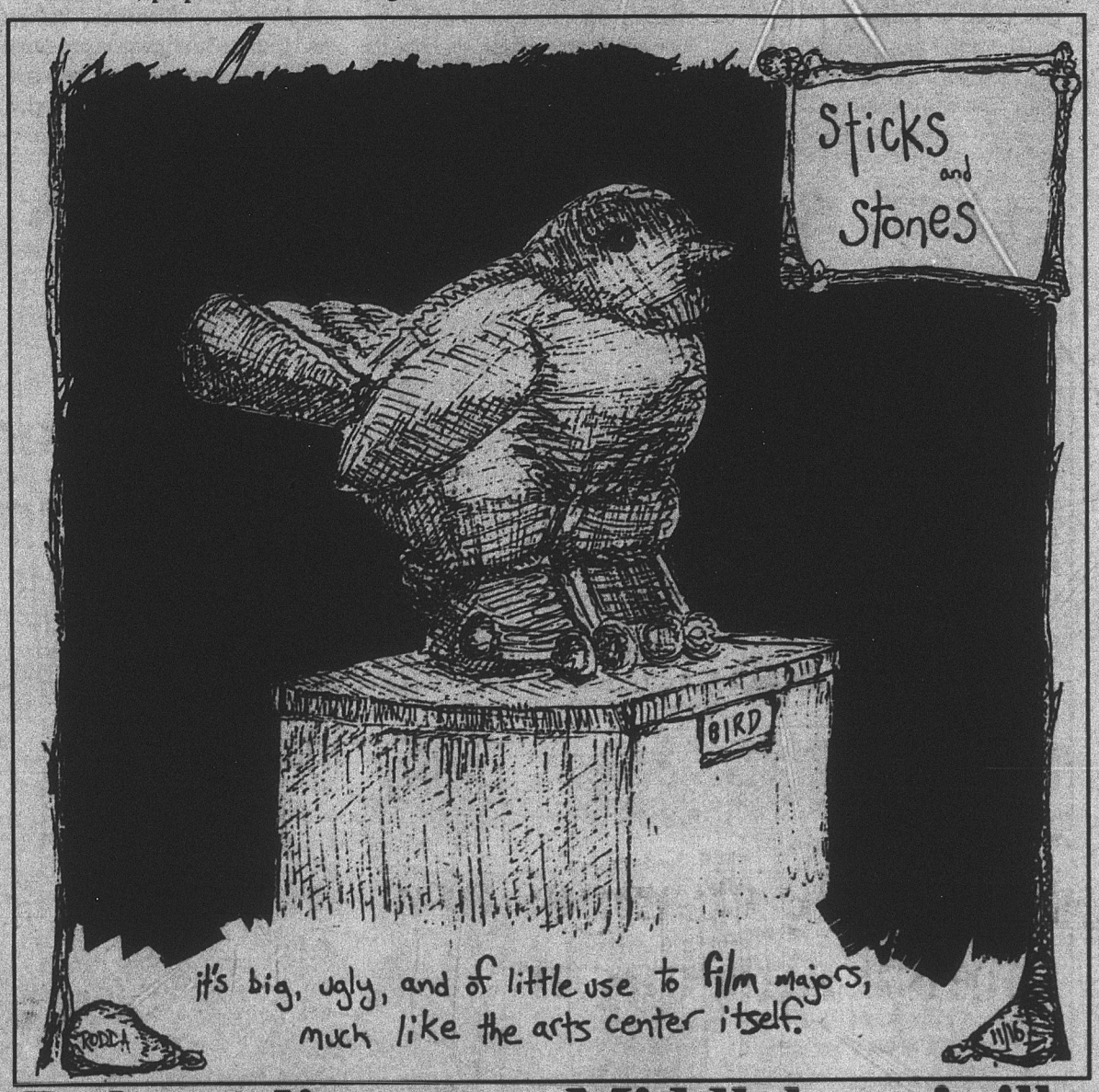
This campus considers itself to be pretty earth conscious. Why then are there so many students here reluctant to walk on the ground? Why do we have to do as the rest of the world has done for the past century and pave the soil? The proposition to put in a path between McCullough and Munroe is asinine.

This idea, proposed at a SGA meeting by a Weybridger (of all people!), will not alleviate pressure on other areas by funneling people onto one path. People will walk where they need to go.

The one thing such a path will do is waste money ($17,000!) and interrupt the lovely grassy field that presently sweeps from Mead Chapel to Old Chapel. It will be a scar far uglier than the organic trail that meanders across now.

Please talk to your SGA representative and tell him how infuriated you are that games of Frisbee will now be divided by concrete or macadam. I for one would rather feel the Earth squish beneath my sneakers than pound my knees on cement.

Alexander Lee '95



Rohrer diagnoses Middlebury's ills

Alright, the buzz over my article from a few of weeks ago (10/21/93) has been of a magnitude that: 1) surprises and confounds me and 2) will make it hard for me to live down. I do not know that I want to be looked upon as the foremost whiner on campus before I sink once again into relative obscurity, but notoriety comes and goes as it damn well pleases and beggars, of course, cannot be choosers. I do not seek to qualify my statements, but I refuse to consider what I said to be an abuse of the right to free speech. Why? Because no one has to listen to me; I am not forcing myself down anyone's throat. If I am not happy with the state of my life, I am not going to bear it lightly or silently.

I realize that by complaining about "pettiness," and then succumbing to it, as I fully admit to having done, I have clearly transgressed the hedged realms of both good taste and logic. Irony, baby. The difference between painful and incisive is where the tongue is placed within the cheek. Anyone can pick out faults in a representational system, but the nit-picker must bear in mind that those faults are reflected back; good intentions cannot disguise the fact that it is very easy to become part of the problem.

What is the problem? Take a good look around; that is all that I ask. There is much that is not right about Middlebury College, and that which is wrong is self-evident. The naked eye discerns far more when left pure of misguided taints. The student is constantly told what to be concerned about, what to deem important and what to feel about it once the facts are discernible. If we all stopped listening to the hints and rumors and stopped watching the state-sanctioned, semi-logical, systematic sign-systems that burn our retinas and numb our brains, then perhaps the truth would make itself known to us: we cannot relate on an intellectual level.

We can talk until our noses bleed, but we will never say anything to each other. And there seems to be no effort on the part of anyone to change this. Complacency? My misguided, one-sided efforts have always been ineffectual; I now refuse to subject myself to the ridicule that unrequited politeness showers upon me. I guess that by merely shrieking about it and not taking action I become less than worthless. Do not go changing to please me. Better yet, why do we not ignore each other to make the communication failure more complete; do not make eye contact; it will only lead to speech — that person staring at you is not made uncomfortable by your stricken silence, he is just deranged. Let us not harangue the status quo. Let us remain deaf, dumb and blind to each other's needs and feelings. Ignorance is the sweetest bliss.

I may be stupid, but I am not ignorant. And if it seems that I am just reflecting my own bitter views upon the entire student body, then so be it; if I am just railing into apathetic darkness, then let that darkness be complete. I do not mean to sound crazed, but I am frustrated by what I see. If only we can all make that one intellectual leap, then maybe the other problems will solve themselves.

Look. Listen. Speak. Jump around and scream blasphemous remarks into the cold, snow-choked air. Stop walking around like a stoned chimp. Say what you know. Say what you feel.

I say sod all the rubbish that is rammed down our gullets like so much cram, spam and deviled ham; if we can all see what we are to each other, understand it and act upon it, then coarse characters like me can rest upon our laurels and stop badgering the normal people of the world.

W. Clay Rohrer '94

Scholarship aids grateful student

(continued from page 5)

This means that my next two years will be spent at this institution, researching and working with squatter communities. I hope that my project will be of help in building for a better future in this country.

The past months saw South Africa drifting to a state of uncertainty. The assassination of Chris Haui left our blood boiling. I heard the bad news on a talk radio, and frankly speaking, I just wanted to do something; "The Boers are used to trampling on us, killing us like flies; they won't get away with this one; they have touched the snake at the tail. They will pay dearly." So I have reasoned full of anger. "How can they do this to us, taking one of the best sons of the soil; enough is enough; let's hit back with everything at our disposal," a neighbor and a fellow student holding back tears exclaimed.

Obviously, the anger was directed at white people by two students who had had the opportunity of getting to the university and analyz[ing] the dynamics of our struggle for human dignity. We sat down with the fellow student trying to look at the implication of the death and what we can do. It was after five hours of deliberations we actually came to the conclusion that our efforts should be directed towards reconciliation.

When we looked back, analyzing the battles of our forefathers, looking at the policies of the African National Congress that is a torchbearer in our struggle [and] which espoused non-racialism facing extreme provocation.

When it defined the enemy of the people as apartheid not a white person, when we thought about those white people who left the comfort of their homes to walk with us on the path to freedom, when we thought about men like Nelson Mandela who was incarcerated for more than a quarter century and came out declaring 'no resentment,' a man who hoped even when there was no reason to hope, we agreed with the friend that the flame of non-racialism has to be kept alive. Many have fallen on the wayside in our battle toward human dignity. Others are still and will still be falling. Let's not waver; let those who try to kill the future and entrench a racial war not be assisted by us.

Unfortunately, not everybody was thinking like that; the country started to burn, but the African National Congress leadership was in control. It effectively took control of the country. The present government could not do anything.

I was part of those multitudes that were ma[r]ching through major cities. Fortunately for our ma[r]ch, no major incidents happened, although there were killings and destruction of property in other areas.

Our university issued a statement condemning the killings and closed on the day of the funeral. Two students were arrested for petrol-bombing the offices of the right-wing conservative party — whose members are accused of being party to Harris' assassination. Our university accommodated members of Umburto Wesizwe who went to ma[r]ch in the stadium where the funeral service was taking place. A special edition of our university newspaper was issued.

The following weeks saw the departure of Oliver Tambo, a man who plotted the downfall of apartheid and kept the liberation movement throughout the world going. It was yet another painful experience being left by a father figure like Mambo.

The youth of South Africa have been correctly defined as angry and impatient. We have been brutalized for so long, such that we cannot take it any longer.

A group of right-wingers led by former generals decided to form a front so as to get a separate "Afrikaner state." They have called for the suspension of the present negotiations so as to give them time to group and present their front.

The right-wingers generally pose a serious problems in our country, but like all other problems, we will come to terms with this one. We cannot allow them to ruin our future in any way. Their views, like any other view, deserve to be heard and be subjected to the same scrutiny like any other. We cannot be subjected to the rule by neo-nazis. Democracy, peace and justice ha[ve] got to determine our destiny.

Chuma Mbande, Student
Wits University
Wits, South Africa

Ship of Fools

by Derek Lounsbury

Recent Republican administrations, as well as the current administration, disenchant many of us. The "United We Stand" movement led by Ross Perot and, to a lesser extent, the popularity of Rush Limbaugh have achieved levels of unprecedented popularity, reflecting that U.S. citizens are simply fed up with the entire politics-as-usual mindset of the two major parties. Elected representatives have a responsibility to pursue policy measures that cater to the needs of the citizens of the country. Instead, representatives often engage in partisan politics that conflict with the interests of the people.

In E.J. Dionne's "Why Americans Hate Politics," he contends that both conservative and liberal politicians have vested interests in not resolving domestic conflict.

For example, he contends that Republicans are reluctant to settle the "cultural civil war" out of fear that they will lose support among the less well-to-do who are culturally conservative.

Dionne goes on to suggest that, although Democrats place their broad political interests in resolving the cultural war, many prefer to see problems persist — otherwise they would be out of a job!

Both parties are playing a game to try to convince the American people that they are trying to solve the culture war and other problems, but many participants concern themselves only with re-election or enhancing the power of the party. As with the culture war, many issues lead some politicians to do not what is best for the country, but rather what is best for them and their parties.

Unfortunately these problems are not isolated — partisan politics has entrenched itself well in the day-to-day dealings that often lead many of our representatives to, perhaps unknowingly, jeopardize the welfare of the nation.

I was recently quite disappointed to read in the *Wall Street Journal*: "Ten Western-state House Republicans, all supporters of NAFTA or leaning that way, told Clinton they may not vote for the trade agreement if he does not back off his effort to raise grazing fees."

Regardless of how we view NAFTA or grazing fees, these representatives feel that the trade accord would be beneficial to their constituency and to the United States as a whole. Grazing fees have absolutely nothing to do with a trade agreement with Mexico and Canada.

Since Clinton needs Republican support to pass NAFTA however, these 10 representatives can take advantage of this weakness to push their agenda — and it will probably work — but it is wrong! We do not hire our representatives to give and take favors, potentially compromising the welfare of society.

Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown and other Democrats now support NAFTA after having adamantly opposed the trade agreement. Brown claims that his original opposition, while party chairman, resulted from his principle goal of electing Democrats; he supports it now, he says, because his principle goal as Commerce secretary is to promote economic growth. "That [party chairman position] was clearly a political role, ... the substance [of NAFTA] is absolutely critical ... it creates jobs, and it looks to the future."

Is Brown also saying that the Democratic Party is only interested

(continued on page 8)

Schedule changes are foolish and harmful

We are responding to the memo we received a few weeks ago from Dean Emerson regarding the class schedule change before Thanksgiving break. The late timing of this announcement outrages us; let alone the logic (or lack thereof) in following a Thursday/Friday schedule, having a weekend, then returning to a Thursday/Friday schedule. Notwithstanding the need for equity regarding skipping classes for holidays, arranging the schedule to repeat Thursday and Friday is an unnecessarily confusing solution.

Logistics aside, October 26 is hardly an "early" time to announce this change; people who have purchased plane tickets risk financial loss if they choose to juggle their plans now to accommodate this change.

This same memo should have been sent out the first week of classes, so students could have made holiday plans well in advance. Now some of us are forced to choose between missing a class or paying additional travel fare.

Expecting professors to enlighten students is also unfair; they are here primarily to teach, not to concentrate upon administrative details. Receiving this news so late is particularly high-handed and hypocritical considering the warning the Dean's office issues regarding changes in the final exam schedule.

The policy states that students will not be granted reprieves due to travel plans if they neglect to investigate their finals schedules. If the administration expects students to be responsible in this matter, they owe us the courtesy of informing us of schedule changes well in advance to allow us to adhere to their guidelines.

Johanna Chapin '94
Samantha Helman '94

The Opinions Editors are looking for assistants (and assistance).

Editor's Note: In order to be printed, all opinions must exceed 300 words.

Teach for America is a challenging, rewarding experience

It is important to remember before you read any further that this is one person's opinion of an extremely singular and specific experience. Also, there is no way to capture in words what I am about to discuss that can even begin to approximate what it means to be a member of Teach For America (TFA).

I decided to write this letter because I am sure that there are some seniors at Middlebury who have been thinking about applying to TFA. As a first year corps member, and only a five month graduate, I hope that I might be of service to anyone considering teaching in the inner city or rural areas of America. Although I can only share about a month and a half's worth of insight into teaching forth and fifth graders in a bilingual classroom in Oakland, California, I guarantee that this will provide you with more information than either your application or interview.

There are a few questions that you might want to ask yourself before submitting TFA's extensive written application:

1) Will it bother you if your students bring you bullets from the playground rather than apples for your desk?

2) Does the thought of having a ten year old African American student scream in your multicultural classroom (more than once) "I hate Mexicans!" give you pause?

3) Are you really ready to accept the infinite number of responsibilities you will have as a twenty-two year old role model (go look it up if you are not sure what it means) in your new community?

Teach for America is the craziest roller coaster you are ever going to ride, and this letter is meant to help you strap yourself in.

4) Are you afraid to make phone calls to irate parents?

5) Could you explain to minds a little less than half your age why, if the Earth is truly tilted, we do not fall off of it?

If you were able to give a positive response to all of these questions, then you should definitely consider sending your application to New York. If not, you might want to do a little reflection on the type of person you are (better to do it now rather than in the middle of grading 32 students' illegible homework) and whether or not you are suited to this type of work.

Teach For America is not something to be taken lightly — it is an extremely serious organization with an extremely serious goal (equal educational opportunities for all children). By no means do I mean to scare you or preach to you, but I think you should know, with the greatest degree of precision possible, exactly what you are thinking of getting yourself into.

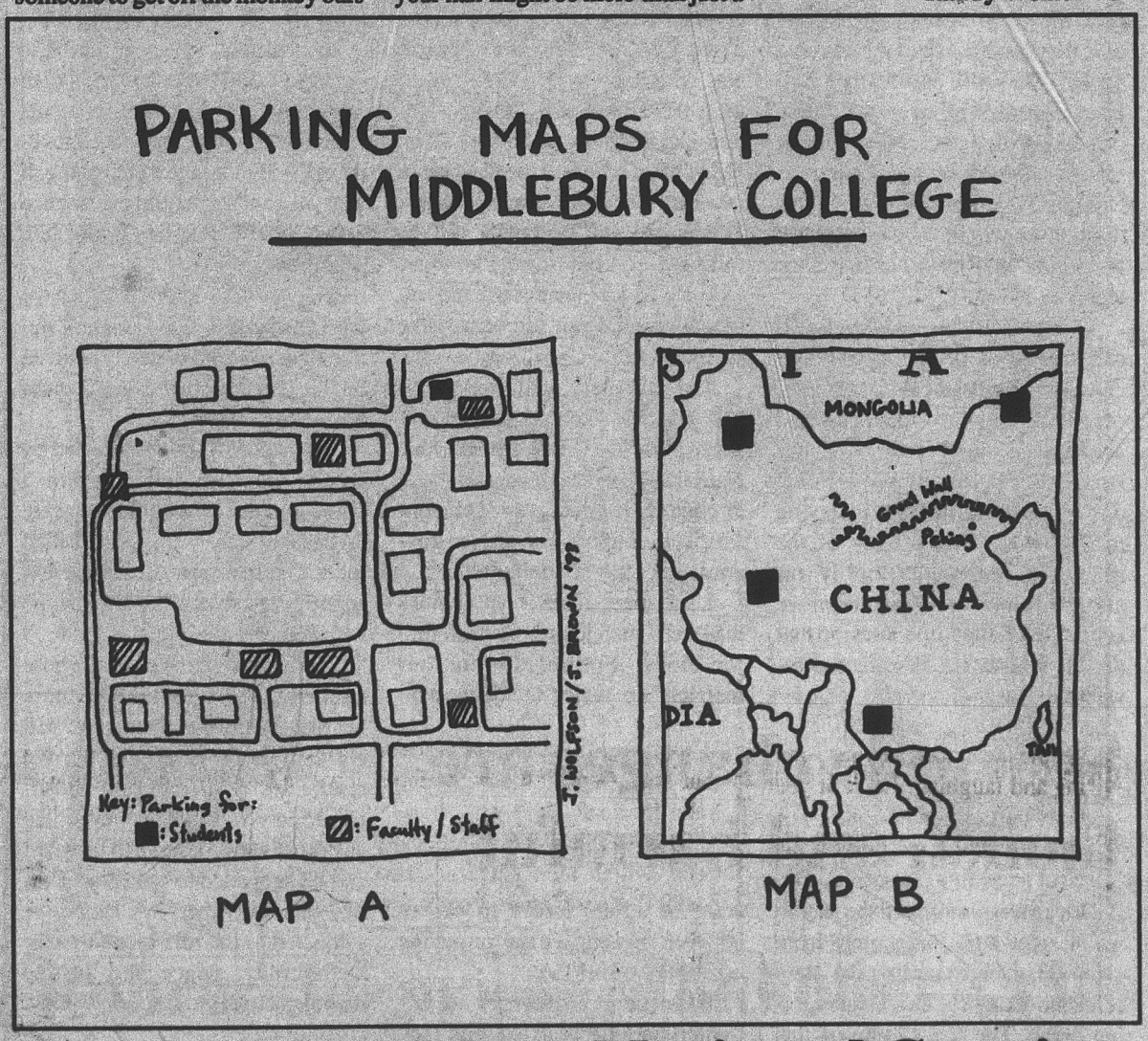
Teaching in the inner city will not just run you ragged and occasionally make you shake your fist at the sky, it will also treat you to some of the most brilliant smiles you will ever see.

It will take you from yelling at someone to get off the monkey bars one instant to the happiness of magically having a tiny hand suddenly slide its way into your own the next instant. The hugs you get at the end of the day will outweigh the fact that you made some of the very same children cry that morning. You do not have to look far at all to figure out why it is that some people spend their entire lives in this kind of environment.

TFA is the craziest roller coaster you are ever going to ride, and this letter is meant to help you strap yourself in. Your stomach will sink; your hair might be more than just a little wind-blown; you will probably scream, and your vision might end up being a little hazy, but in the end, you will be glad you climbed in. And do not be surprised to find yourself getting back in line for another ride — being with these children is unbelievably addictive, and I know I would not trade them for anything.

Please feel free to get in touch with me through the TFA Office in Oakland (510/444-2377) if you have any questions.

Randy Weiner '93



Lounsbury on NAFTA

(continued from page 7)

in getting itself elected and not with the needs of Americans?

As chairman of the party he concerned himself only with electing Democrats. Although we did not directly elect Brown, it should bother us that someone with as much influence as he has would claim that as a politician he need not do what is best for the country. At the very least, the integrity of Ron Brown and others comes into question.

Clinton's budget deal is another prime example of party politics that conflict with the needs of Americans. In order to pass the measure, Clinton and his men worked overtime to convince Democratic members of Congress that although they were against the bill, the respectability of the party was at stake.

The bill squeaked through because some Democrats were afraid of being accused of gridlock and ineffective government — but the majority of Congress deemed the bill to be bad for America. Regardless of how we view the bill, our representatives considered it bad and passed it anyway. That is certainly not what our Founding Fathers intended.

Partisan politics is certainly no new phenomena, but we, the "owners of the country," actually have the power to effect change. Although I vehemently disagree with Ross] on many issues, I am grateful that there is another outlet through which Americans can effectively voice their frustrations with government and the politics-as-usual attitude.

As well, modern talk radio and television offer new opportunities for concerned citizens to voice their opinions, supplementing the traditional methods such as letter-writing and voting.

We must all recognize each suspect or unethical action of our representatives and make them aware of it through individual political activism.

A question of ethics is not an issue that simply confines itself to the scandals that occasionally shock the nation, but extend to the questionable everyday dealings that, in many ways, characterize our government.

Americans interest themselves in resolutions to problems and in improved welfare, not in the prolongation of our problems and unethical policy decisions.

Whether we speak of the budget deal, health care, NAFTA or grazing fees, Americans have lost and will continue to lose until politicians begin to do the jobs we hire them to do — to represent us. As we vote out the incumbents engaged in questionable practices and as Americans more actively engage talk radio and television programs, politicians are finally starting to get the message. Through increased individual political activism, we as Americans can deliver that message with stronger force.

Sanders supports National Service

This year the Congress passed, and President Clinton signed, the National Service Trust Act. This is good news. The act removes some of the economic barriers to attending college by allowing students to get scholarship aid or pay off student loans through working in their communities on important educational, environmental and poverty problems.

At times in the past, young people have been asked to respond to the nation's need by serving in the armed forces. Now, long after the second World War and the wars of the Cold War period—in Korea, in Vietnam—are over, the time is appropriate to ask young people to serve their country in other ways, to ask them to do voluntary service, and to extend college scholarships or forgive education-related indebtedness in return.

The National Service Trust Act allows students to work in public service for either one or two years at modest wages, in return for which the government will award $4725 for each year of service toward the cost of education—either to repay existing college loans, or to pay for higher education in the future.

Our student population is changing, a fact that National Service recognizes. Today about 43 percent of students are over the age of 25, and 40 percent are enrolled on a part-time basis. Since 1979, a majority of students have been women. By providing opportunities to part-time students, by offering student participants such benefits as family leave, health insurance and child care, the recently passed legislation makes it possible for our increasingly diverse student population to take advantage of National Service.

It is high time that the federal government recognizes that college should be a right and not a privilege, that college should be equally available to every American, and that no one should have to make a major financial sacrifice just to get an education. Unfortunately, despite my opposition this year the Congress has cut back on, instead of increasing, our commitment to Pell grants. Even the National Service Trust Act, exciting as it is, has been modestly funded. It is not available to all students, and the stipends it offers in return for national service—the scholarship/loan forgiveness package—is smaller than I would like, and than President Clinton originally proposed.

I believe that one of our highest national priorities must be to offer college students both National Service and a fully-funded Pell program, as well as extensive work study opportunities, Perkins Loan programs and all sorts of other incentives to creating the best-educated citizenry, and workforce, in the world.

So there is much that still needs to be done. But at least the National Service program is now law and is almost ready to begin. When will the program go into effect? At this stage, the ball is in each state's hands: each state must set up a commission to oversee the program. Regulations will be formulated and applications for grants will be distributed this coming January. That means participants in National Service will be serving our communities by June 1994. In its first year of operation, the program will begin slowly, with 20,000 participants.

If you want more information about National Service, you can write to The Corporation for National and Community Service, 1100 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20525.

U.S. Rep. Bernard Sanders

MARK FELDMAN

Look Who's Talking

Thousands of years ago, before the invention of fire or the wheel, primitive man (and yes, woman too, let's not get the folks at Chellis House writing heated letters) walked the Earth. They were hunters, foragers, and they weren't obsessed with cellular technology. They were the first species to walk upright and they all had belly-buttons.

Over the centuries, humankind slowly developed and society became increasingly more sophisticated. We began to wear clothes, build tools of iron, and order subscriptions to Vogue and Cosmopolitan. The changes were gradual and nearly imperceptible.

But throughout this major evolution, the belly button remained constant, a focal point rooting us back to the beginning, innies and outies alike.

Take the time now to stop reading and gaze at your own mid-section. Forget that you might be in a public place and people are staring at you, pointing and laughing. Look at your belly button. Embrace it. This is the same belly button your ancient ancestors possessed. They too, marveled at this biological wonder and said, "Guh muh duh?" (Which meant, as we soon learned after the invention of language, "What's the deal?")

The belly button has been a mystery for years. It does not serve as a defense mechanism. It does not swell up and change colors during mating season. It's just there. And it's usually filled with lint. Modern biologists have put forth the hypothesis that this is the main purpose of the belly button; that it is actually some sort of genetic ashtray, collecting harmful contaminants and storing them safely within the surrounding layers of muscle and tissue.

However, this theory encounters major difficulties when confronted with the undeniable fact that 45 percent of all belly-buttons are outies. If natural selection were at work, it would have eliminated all such belly buttons which are hardly biologically advantageous for lint storage.

At this point, rather than engage in a tedious survey of various belly button theories and ideology, I would like to present my own beliefs regarding this anomaly of the human body. In my opinion, the belly button serves a much greater purpose, functioning primarily as the "keyhole of the soul." Within the belly button lies the center of each person. Although some

(continued on page 12)

Comics & Collectibles moves to new location

Tiffany Claflin

Pick up a few rookie cards or get the latest issue of Batman at Comics & Collectibles, now located on Bakery Lane.

By Mark Feldman

With J-term just around the corner, many of you are probably busily waxing your skis and getting your long johns out of hibernation. But for those particular students who are beginning to experience the end-of-the-semester-and-I'm-bored-with-life blues, perhaps it's time for you to consider a new hobby. And what better place to start your new pastime than at the new and improved Comics and Collectibles store located on Bakery Lane (right off Main Street, next to Neat Repeats).

For those of you who have been collecting comics or sports cards for years, the new store offers plenty of floor space and more attractive displays. The owners, Dayton and Sara Wakefield, opened the original store in 1987 (formerly located near The Pizza Cellar). In its formative years, the store was split in half, a comic book side, and a "collectibles" side, which offered a wide variety of knick-knacks, coins, stamps, and whatnots that people were collecting.

However, due to the growing demand for baseball cards, the Wakefields slowly began to take stock in sports cards, and now half the store is devoted to the hot-selling baseball, football and hockey cards. The store does still carry coins and stamps, so collectors of these items should not be disheartened.

Beginner collectors can purchase cards from this year's teams for a dollar or two. For the serious collector (and the well-to-do), the store offers individual cards at more expensive prices, up to $125 for an early twentieth-century Al Simmons card produced by the Goudey Gum Company. When asked what cards sell the best, Mr. Wakefield replied, "Everybody wants the rookie card of their favorite players. The rookie cards always fetch premium prices."

More than half the store is devoted to comic books. Collectors can buy all their favorite Marvel, DC, Image and (new in the market) Ultraverse titles. Wakefield says about the comic buyers, "In the fifties, 'funny' books were in demand. Now, collectors want books about superheroes." For older readers, there are numerous titles which cater to the "mature reader." Titles such as "Sandman" and "Black Orchid," two books published by Vertigo (a subsidiary of DC Comics) feature more complex story lines and action.

Whether your hero is Superman, Spiderman, Batman or the Hulk, Comics and Collectibles has got them all. And if they don't have what you want, just talk to Mrs. Wakefield, who is in charge of the comic side of the store. The husband and wife team split the responsibility (Mr. Wakefield makes all the sports cards decisions), which makes the store very efficient. If you request a comic which is currently not in stock, Mrs. Wakefield can write down your name and try to order the comic from the company. This is just one of the many convenient features of this "mom and pop" store.

With the cold of winter settling upon us, what better way to spend the evening than curled up to your heater with the latest issue of Batman? Comics and Collectibles is open six days a week, from 11-5. Browse the racks, check out the cards, and say hello to the Wakefields. Even if you're not considering starting a new card, comic, stamp or coin collection, it's worth the trip.

Students, faculty face off in raucous feud

By Jennifer Kuli

Gene Swift takes command of a crowd of people. Dan O'Brien sports striped bell bottoms, chest hair flaunted openly. Dean Emerson leans into the microphone and says, "I'm going to have to go with sex on that one, Gene." A drug-induced hallucination? Hardly.

This was the scene at the Faculty Feud, which took place at Dana Auditorium last Saturday night. The participants were all given a sheet of guidelines, complete with a minute-by-minute schedule of the evening's entertainment. The game is basically the same as the popular game show Family Feud, except there wasn't one of those neat boards with the spinning categories, and Mr. Swift had to do the buzzer sound himself.

Between their pom-pom flailing rendition of "Respect" at the talent show and the display of quick-fire wit on Saturday, the recycling team revealed their rarely seen wild and spontaneous side.

The night began with a hokey synthesizer introduction by David Bain, who shed his English professor image for the occasion. The purpose of the evening, besides providing a couple of hours of quality entertainment, was to raise money for Community Friends. After a brief explanation of the Community Friends program, Swift bounded up the stairs to claim the stage.

The first game saw five representatives of Middlebury's recycling staff face off against a team called the Greens. The Greens come from Winnetka, IL. and pose as Otter Nonsense Players in their spare time. The game began, and was played realistically for a while until the impulse to steal the show set in amongst the team members. Big Daddy Green was constantly showing off his knowledge of deviant behavior and large leather vest, while the recycling team took every opportunity to remind the audience of their environmental duties.

Between their pom-pom flailing rendition of "Respect" at the talent show and the display of quick-fire wit on Saturday, the recycling team revealed their rarely seen wild and spontaneous side. The audience, which was small but spirited, adding as much to the performance as those on stage. In fact, several audience members were pulled on stage to replace absent faculty members.

After the Greens had demolished the recycling team, the Chapels took over the challenge. Headed by Dean Chapel himself, this team insisted that sex in the library is something that just might happen and that Dean Emerson, respected patriarch that he is, has been sneaking food in with his books for years.

Actually, the only people that did not answer "sex" to most of the questions were students. Apparently, most of the student body has had their fill of penis and beer jokes.

The game dragged on a bit at times, but the audience remained content with the benign atmosphere that accompanies charity events.

The Greens reigned triumphant at the end, but they did not do the Family Feud jump-up-and-down-and-hug-everyone routine, which was disappointing, at least to some. More hokey music á la Bain and that was it. Happy audience, happy Otters, happy Community Friends. Perhaps next year Community Friends will consider running a Jeopardy parody. We will just have to wait and see.

Turn to the left, turn to the right

Nikki Wood

The ISO Fashion Show, "Ribbon in the Sky," involved more than 80 students who strutted their stuff to a full house last Saturday. The models wore both contemporary and traditional fashions, and included song and dance numbers from different regions.

Open up and say 'aah' with Head Nurse Kathleen Ready

By Mark Feldman

Name: Kathleen Ready
Position: Administrative Director, Head Nurse
Hometown: Burlington, VT
Birthday: January 27
College: University of Vermont
Major: Nursing

College is a time when most of us spend a lot of our time working, eating, partying, hanging out, drinking and, on occasion, sleeping. Considering the hectic lifestyle of students at Middlebury, it is no surprise that sometimes we neglect our bodies and end up sick.

However, being ill has one advantage, and that is the opportunity to meet Kathleen Ready, head nurse extraordinaire. Ms. Ready is undoubtedly one of the most charming nurses you may ever encounter. In this week's "Up Close and Personal" interview, I got the inside scoop on what happens behind the front desk. The next time your glands start swelling up, don't despair. Just head on over to the Parton Health Center where you are sure to be provided with the best health care tuition can buy. And if you see Kathleen Ready, make sure you say hello. Who knows, she may even give you a few free pairs of rubber gloves. Who says you can't get something for nothing?

Question: How long have you been working at Middlebury?

Ready: It'll be two years this January.

Q: How many students do you see in an average day?

R: We usually see anywhere from 50 to 100 students a day. During the winter term we sometimes see over one hundred.

Q: What's the most common illness in Middlebury?

R: Respiratory infections.

Q: How do you react when someone coughs on you accidentally?

R: I don't react, it happens so often.

Q: Where do you go when you want to get away from it all?

R: To Lake Champlain.

Q: What's your opinion on grandma's chicken soup?

R: Well, I'm a vegetarian, but I do think eating well and resting can cure most things.

Q: Why are stethoscopes always so darn cold?

R: Are they?

Q: Does the show Doogie Howser give a realistic portrayal of adolescent doctors?

R: We only get one station on our TV, so I've never seen it.

Q: If Sudafed is dangerous in large doses, why do they make it look so much like candy?

R: I think a lot of over-the-counter medicine is made to look appealing and people need to make themselves knowledgeable.

Q: What's the best cure for a hangover?

R: Besides not drinking? The best thing to do is to sleep and drink fluids, preferably other than alcohol.

Q: What's your favorite virus?

R: Mono, because it presents itself in so many different ways.

Q: Do you watch General Hospital?

R: It's not on our station, but maybe we could get it beamed into the waiting room.

Q: One of my hands is always clammy and the other one is always dry. Do you think I have cancer?

R: You better wear both your mittens.

Q: Why did you become a nurse?

R: I've always been interested in wellness and sickness prevention.

Q: What's the best thing about being a nurse?

R: The relationships you develop with clients.

Q: What's a really good food loaded with vitamin C?

R: Fruit.

Q: What's the worst thing about being a nurse?

R: Working nights, but I don't do that anymore.

Q: Which do you think is more effective in keeping a doctor away, an apple or a .44 Magnum?

R: An apple.

Q: Are tongue depressors recycled popsicle sticks or are they specifically designed to push down tongues?

R: They are specifically designed and we don't recycle our tongue depressors.

Q: Have you ever performed surgery?

R: No, but I've taken slivers out, that's about as close as I've gotten.

Q: Do you get a lot of malaria patients around here?

R: We do get some exotic illnesses around here from students who travel to foreign countries.

Q: Do you notice a lot of different students coming in and taking the free condoms or is it like, just one guy with a greasy mustache who comes back night after night?

R: We have a variety of both men and women who come by and use the services provided by the health center.

Q: Do you foresee the return of the plague?

R: I don't know, it's an interesting question. There's a potential for diseases to mutate and become resistant to drugs.

Q: Can I get some free rubber gloves?

R: Sure.

Q: What do you think of a new slogan for the Commons System, "The Commons System, turn and cough please."?

R: I'm a fan of the Commons System.

Q: Who was Carr?

R: I don't know. This is the Parton Health Center. I think he was the first doctor here.

Q: Finally, are you pregnant?

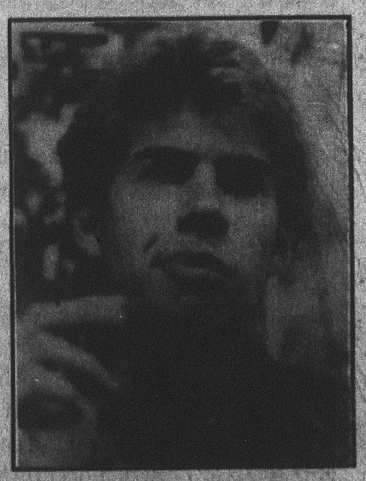
R: No.

Caroline Griffith

Ready's favorite virus is the ever-changing mystery called Mono.

CAMPUS VOICES

What is the most effective stress reliever for you?



■ Dan Schechter '96

"Doing headstands is one of my favorite stress relievers. You know, you're walking around all day and the blood stops going to your brain after a while—and a headstand usually does the trick."

■ Sarah Merrill '96

"I beat up my roommate sometimes. I beat her until she's all black and blue with this g-string. When I'm done it makes me feel cool as a cucumber."

■ Alli Miller '96

"I call my friends and we get together and make stale popcorn and drink tea."

■ Nathan Bennett '96

"I don't have stress. I don't work."

Compiled by Jeremy Davidson
Photos by Tiffany Ciallin

Phone-A-Thon helps raise money

By Shamoil Shipchandler

Do you like to talk on the phone a lot? Students participating in the phone-a-thon have put fundraising and talking on the phone together with much success. It has been so successful that they have managed to raise over $45,000 so far this year and are quickly approaching their goal of $150,000.

The money they raise is classified as "unrestricted," meaning that it goes toward helping defray the costs of financial aid, tuition, buildings and grounds, and plants and facilities.

The procedure is simple, yet very effective. About eight to nine students each night call alumni from the classes of 1965-92, asking for gifts to the college. James Thompson '87, heads the program. Although the volunteers get a script, Thompson says its "more like a guideline to follow. Most have their own style."

Callers first identify themselves and state the reason for the call before they ask if the alumnus would like to support the college. Many times, the student will engage in long conversations with alumnus. Many alumni are out of touch with current events at Middlebury, and enjoy the 'update.' The average gift, Thompson says, is about $50.

Many alumni are out of touch with current events at Middlebury, and enjoy the 'update.'

For incentive, the callers have a chance to win prizes, either each night or for the duration of the entire fundraising period. There is even a prize for group participation. First prize overall is one round trip airline ticket anywhere in the continental United States. Second and third prizes are $150 and $75 respectively.

Talking to alumni can be enlightening, and the callers seem to really enjoy the experience. Kyle Hirsch '96 summarized the situation best, by saying, "It is really rewarding if [the alum] is interested in the college...and I really like the prizes."

The phone-a-thon is an annual event and the college is grateful to the students who have continually been willing to contribute their time and effort over the years.

The power of Fortune seems to move in mysterious ways

By Gene Swift

In Act II of William Shakespeare's "Hamlet," the young prince of Denmark says to his good friend Horatio, "There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so." Combine this line with the teachings of Obi-Wan Kenobi and Yoda, and mix in a little of the chaos-theory preached by Jeff Goldblum's character in "Jurassic Park," and you have my current philosophy on life.

We live in difficult times, where bad things seem to happen to good or innocent people and the slimiest humans to walk the planet have all the luck. Evidence of this is everywhere: the biggest jerk you have ever known hooks up with the woman of your dreams; your hard-drive crashes several hours before your thesis is due; the ATM rejects your card right when you need cash the most; all the prizes at Casino Night go to other people despite your incredible $180,000 worth of raffle tickets. After careful consideration of the rather cruel way reality squashes "the best laid plans of mice and men," it is difficult to believe in anything. One begins to wonder what, exactly, are the advantages of living a "good" life? Why not, if reality is going to continue to behave as reality does, live a life which would have made Sid Vicious blush?

And where does religion fit into this whole mess? If there is a force of goodness embodied in an all-powerful deity, watching everything from some far-off place, why do bad things happen?

Now, I am in no position to answer this question — I would never be so presumptuous as to assume that I have the explanation of the universe and its ways — but I do have a philosophy as to how to cope when things look dark.

I believe the only concept of good and evil we can ever fully understand is one applied to human action. As expressed by that bumper-sticker/t-shirt slogan concerning the inevitable existence/interference of feces in our daily lives, things will happen. These events and moments are not intrinsically good or bad, thanks to a force which I like to call Fortune. I prefer this word, Fortune, and its late-medieval interpretation, to a word like Fate, which carries with it extremely pessimistic connotations. Fortune can bring you great happiness or equally great sorrow, and with a holistic view of the universe (one which does not focus on the life of just one person), the laws of probability suggest that these will come in equal amounts and intensities over time. For example, Fortune decides to frown upon a Chicago stockbroker. One Wednesday, he loses everything in a bad pork-bellies investment, then totals his Ford Bronco in a thirty-two car pile-up on the way home. When he gets there, he discovers that his dog has died and his wife has run off with the gardener.

On that same Wednesday, millions of children were born, thousands fell in love, and several hundred were handed the keys to brand new Ford Broncos.

Tiffany Claflin

There is a good and dark side in life. Fortune determines which of these paths you will follow.

It is how this Chicago stockbroker deals with the things that happens to him which makes them ultimately good or bad.

Each day, we are thrown relatively random mixed pitches, and it is how we hit them that is important in this game. As Eric Idle sang at the end of Python's "Life of Brian," "Always look on the bright side of life."

Granted, I myself sometimes scoff at such an optimistic attitude, but more often than not, it is this optimism to which I find myself clinging. The world is truly ours, to make of it what we will — that's what this whole free-will thing is all about. Fortune loves to throw us as many unexpected curves as it can, simply to see if we stay at the plate, walk away in despair, or charge the mound in anger.

It is impossible for me to believe that there is not some greater scheme, some larger picture, which we, as humans, cannot fully understand. Whether our origin as a species in conflict with reality was some naked couple in a garden, sneaking a nibble on an apple they knew their Father was saving, or some woman opening a box she just shouldn't have touched, the fact remains that we can do whatever we want to do. There are not certain humans who are created "good" or "bad." A good person, in my opinion, is one who decides to do good things, despite the knowledge that it will not necessarily bring tangible rewards.

If striving for a better world is not a realistic goal, how about simply a more optimistic one?

Getting enough sleep is not always so easy to schedule

By Elizabeth Del Colliano

Often, students are so busy studying, socializing, eating and complaining about the food at Proctor, that they spend their few restful moments wondering, "Why am I always so tired?" A common sight on campus is a group of Middlebury students shuffling along, shoulder sagging, while mumbling to each other about the lack of sleep they have had in the past 24, 48 or even 72 hours. With head down and eyes fluttering, they stumble ahead with a determination to get to their next class—only to end up sleeping through the entire lecture.

In trying to pinpoint the problem of sleep deprivation, one needs to consider the phenomenon of writing down one's schedule in little Midd Day Planner books. This is a wonderful little item that organizes your day and lets you know exactly when to work, when to study, and when to party one's brains out.

The last thing written in my little blue book was on Sept. 30; I think it was a splendid picture of little smiley-faces drawn in a perfect circle. Consequently, I don't sleep much, because my life lost all sense of organization on that fateful day. In talking to others, I found out this universal truth; life does not fit into the little "day" slots in your planner. It fits quite well into the "night" category, however, they do not sell night planners. With the constant appearance of random drop-in procrastinators in your room, unexpected phone calls and Crest Room study breaks, one can not expect to do an hour's worth of work in anywhere less than four and a half hours. Perhaps this is why the planner is somewhere under my couch.

With the constant appearance of random drop-in procrastinators in your room, unexpected phone calls and Crest Room study breaks, one can not expect to do an hour's worth of work in anywhere less than four and a half hours.

On the average, it seems that many students opt for the "power week" and "lazy weekend" program. This means getting roughly six to seven hours of sleep from Monday to Friday, and then unlimited sleeping freedom on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Others find themselves sleeping only four to five hours a night and taking comfort in naps that often occur when their poor bodies demand a break, usually during that two-hour seminar in Advanced Botany.

However, spontaneous napping can sometimes be dangerous, especially for chemistry students and people taking long drives. Bruce Brown '96 agrees, explaining, "Hey, did you know that the body's immune system needs a full nine hours to rejuvenate?" Brown's insight helps explain why naps leave you more tired than before. Obviously, your body is in the middle of rejuvenation, and by waking up, you have thrown a wrench in the machinery.

Fortunately, Thanksgiving Break will soon arrive. Never mind all the work that your professors have assigned. Remember, your health is worth more than your GPA. The break is like a "lazy weekend" with a golden wrapper. Enjoy the effects of turkey-coma, and find comfort in your bed. Grab nine hours of solid sleep and you will return to school feeling refreshed and ready to gear up for final exams.

Tiffany Claflin

Although it takes nine hours for the body to completely rejuvinate itself, this doesn't stop these sleepy and worn-out students from catching a little shut-eye in between their classes.

Steve Sidore, alive and well, sends regards from Germany

By Steven Sidore

Walt Disney had it right. It is a small world after all. The proof is in the pudding, this article has made it into *the Campus*.

I know this article is a big surprise to many of you. "Steven," you're thinking, "you haven't been around all fall, and phonemail refuses to acknowledge that you exist. I saw a magazine addressed to your mailbox in the recycling heap. Either you're sharing a mailbox with Ethan in San Quentin, or you're dead. And if you're not dead, where's the 20 bucks you owe me for dinner at Up's?"

Well, I'm not dead, or in jail. (Fight the power, Ethan.) It's worse. I'm in Germany.

Not that Germany isn't a fine place. The beer is good; the basement of every dorm houses an inexpensive pub; the trains run on time, and hey, I finally get to see cigarette ads on TV. Hell, I even speak the language. Well, okay, I speak the words. Two years of German in Vermont has somehow failed to equip me with a convincing German accent. But then again, I know Middlebury. I worked with Middlebury. I was a friend of Middlebury. And U.O. Mainz, you're no Middlebury.

So, through the good graces of the Middlebury Mandatory Relocation Program (MMRP), also known as junior year abroad (code for "your-class-is-too-big-go-far-away-or-we'll-room-you-in-fifth-floor-Stewart"). About half of my fellow juniors and I were encouraged, almost forced, into spending some time elsewhere. Hey, I got lucky. All I have to worry about are badly dubbed films. Think about the poor Midd Moscow students, cowering in their rooms for fear of the terrors around them.

So, in exchange for spending our junior year at what I'll call an "alternative" university, the MMRP (a distant cousin of the FBI Witness Protection Program) will give away your mailbox, disconnect your phone number, purge your name from phonemail, shut off your pin number and basically remove all traces that you exist.

Which brings me back to good ol' Walt and our small world (terrible ride, great phrase). The MMRP forgot one thing...they leave your e-mail account active. A small oversight, considering the other pains they go to to insure that you are forgotten. Yet believe me, brother, when AT&T reaches out and touches you with that first trans-Atlantic phone bill, the lure of free communication perks up real quick. Besides, it lets us juniors abroad cling to our Middlebury identities tighter than a first-year to his beer. Through the modern miracle of VAX and Telnet, we can log into the Middlebury system from afar, and time zones be damned, sow discontent among those back home. That is, I can let my friends know that I'm alive, well, and that my classes only started the last week of October (you gotta love that German system).

Were I the only one, this wouldn't mean squat. But week after week, more and more of my junior comrades are showing up on the electronic networks, reporting the stories of their adventures from all four corners of the globe. Germany, Canada, Russia, Ireland, the UK; everywhere there are Middlebury kids and a university, messages are being sent back and forth. (Except for Midd Paris. Evidently, they don't seem to have a VAX over there. How French.)

It is a small world, but we're still far away. So if you have some time, drop us a line. We read *the Campus* (albeit three weeks late) and we need fresh gossip.

And for those of you who don't know us because you are first-years (but we know you from hours of intensely studying "New Faces", a.k.a. the "menu") think of us, and take care of our mailboxes. Because in two years, it'll be your turn to write from God knows where.

Feldman's Look Who's Talking

(continued from page 9)

people think the heart is the center of love and emotion, that's just a lot of malarky, they've been watching too much television. The belly button is where it's at, and proper understanding can lead to a more fruitful and productive life.

For example, stimulation of the belly button region is considered by many ancient cultures a technique which can bring harmony and peace into one's life. Many practitioners of Buddhism practice rubbing the tummy of the Buddha to give them luck and success. Many of us may be familiar with the smiling, chubby form of the Buddha, sitting cross-legged with his belly button exposed to followers.

Disciples of Khan, a clan noted for practicing black magic, were also aware of the healing power of the belly button and attempted in the eighth century to distribute replicas of the statue which were cursed. However, those followers who were attuned to the power within their own belly buttons were easily able to distinguish the forgeries and exclaimed to those less pure as they smashed the replicas, "I can't believe it's not Buddha!" Thus, we see how the power of the belly button overcame evil. (And we are also now aware as to what lengths I will stoop to set up a dumb joke.)

In modern times, the belly button has become less revered by individuals although to be fair, religion in general has taken a back seat in American society. Nonetheless, the belly button has constantly been creeping into our culture, despite our disbelief or ignorance of its power.

Pillsbury, makers of fine cookies and cinnamon rolls, invented the Pillsbury Dough Boy to promote its products. The Dough Boy bears a striking parallel to the image of Buddha and of course, when you push his belly button, he giggles with joy and goodwill. Also, ancient scrolls have recorded stories about the Buddha's bottomless desire for junk food.

The belly button is a reflection of our soul. This is why stories which contain a belly button motif usually withstand the test of time. One of the world's greatest children's book authors, Dr. Seuss, used the motif in his famous story, "The Sneetches."

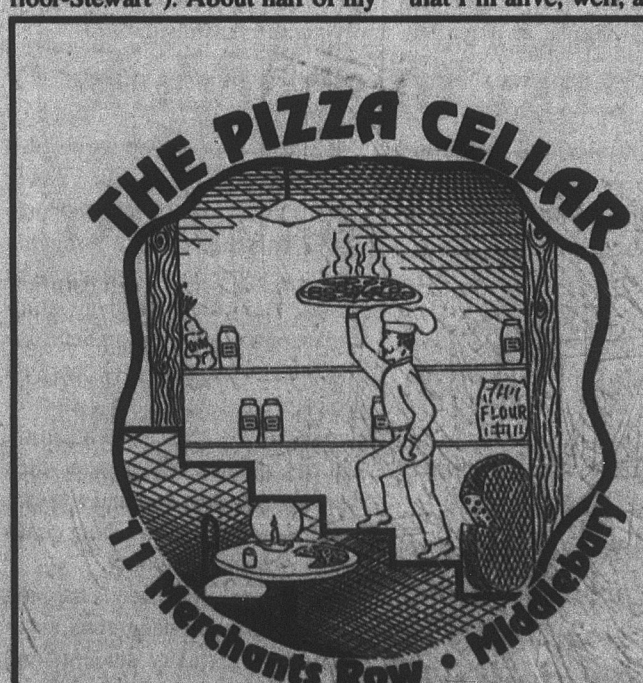
The story depicts the conflict between star-bellied Sneetches and their counterparts, the plain-bellied Sneetches. The star-bellied Sneetches think themselves superior until the introduction of the rather mysterious character of Sylvester McMonkey McBean, who has invented a contraption which can both put stars on one's belly or remove them. Naturally, the story is allegorical for the constant real life debate between owners of innies and outies, who have forever argued the superiority of their belly button's distinguishing characteristic. In Seuss's story, children's literature experts and philosophers have interpreted McBean as a Buddha figure, restoring harmony through a brief creation of chaos.

Many of us may be quick to reject the importance of our belly buttons. We are disrespectful of their purpose, allowing them to fill with lint and remain full. Furthermore, we are sometimes guilty of degrading the belly buttons of others, unaware of the full degree of the insult.

We, the community of Middlebury College, can do better. We must do better. We are the future, and we must start loving our belly buttons today. The consequence if we refuse to change our ways is unthinkable.

But if we start today, by looking at our own belly button, and saying to ourselves, "This is my belly button, and I love it," then we will soon be able to spread love, peace, and harmony to the entire world. At least, that's what I think.

[editor's note: Mark is still stressing about finding a job and is currently undergoing therapy to keep things in perspective. He promises his readers that next week he will definitely try to write about something at least remotely in touch with reality.]



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Tiffany Claflin

After his eventful dinner at Mr. Ups, master hypnotist Russ Burgess amazed the audience by doing hand shadows on the back of unsuspecting student Jen Hann'95.

Chatting with jazz guru Fred Haas

By Jennifer Kuli

Fred Haas, the notorious leather-legged figure, the man who has been described as the Jesus of Jazz, who gave the Dig Quintet their wings and coaxed them out of the nest, sits calmly at his desk in the Arts Center.

He prepares to enlighten the campus with his insights into the music world. Haas has been teaching classes and private lessons at Middlebury for about three years and divides his time between the college and Dartmouth, his alma mater. The courtesy acts of greeting completed, the journey begins...

Campus: In order to get a little background on Fred Haas, the man, why don't you tell me where you're from?

Haas: I was born in Alexandria, Virginia, where I lived until I was nine years old. Then my family moved to Chicago, where I grew up. I lived there through high school and then went to Dartmouth College, where I got my B.A. in music.

C: So I guess you could say New England was quite a shock to your system, being a city kind of character until college.

H: Well, yes. When I got up here, I completely fell in love with New England. Not just the physical aspects but the relaxed atmosphere. Being a musician in the city is a completely different thing. By the time I graduated in '73, I knew a lot of musicians and was playing gigs and teaching private lessons. It didn't make any sense for me to abandon all of my contacts and the good thing that I had just to get back to the city.

C: I've heard you described as the Guru of Jazz. Is that the term you'd choose?

H: I think that might be just a little extreme. The way I see myself is still as very much a student. Anyone who's a serious musician will always think of himself in this way because there's always so much to learn from the experience of playing and teaching. I try to pass along what I know, but I'm going through this process with my students and learning from them at the same time.

I've had the privilege to play with musicians who have been around for a while, like Milt Hilton, a jazz bassist who's over eighty, and Clark Terry who's in his seventies. I've also played with my dad. You realize that even at their age these men are still really alive because of what they get from the music.

By playing you become a part of a long lineage of jazz musicians that pass on what they can, and one hopes that your students can do the same. But I think I've digressed from your question...

C: What is it about jazz in particular that moves you?

H: When I hear a musician that is able to be completely himself when he plays, I feel that he is letting me know him in a way that it would take years to explain in words. Because jazz musicians often create as they play, it's an immediate connection with whoever's listening. There's also the connection between the members of a band, making a statement as a unit. That's what I try to do when I perform: to remember what it is that touches me and try to touch other people so that they leave the performance feeling something.

C: Do you remember when you first realized that music was going to be "it" for you?

H: Sometime in my early teens. There was no exact moment, but basically I remember feeling that I wanted to do what I most enjoyed doing, which was playing and learning from music. I'd spend hours and hours practicing then go out to a performance, and the feedback from the audience would spur me to practice more. Then I started getting paid for gigs, and I figured if I could make a living off of it, there was no reason not to do it.

Because it was not a normal thing to do graduating from Dartmouth, there were a lot of people there that didn't believe that I could make it as a professional musician. I knew that if it was something I wanted to do, I could make it work.

C: If you had to name a favorite musician, who would it be?

H: I have no favorite. Each artist is playing from inside himself, and that can change with the moment. The artist that I choose depends on my mood. I guess you could say my favorite is whoever I'm listening to at the time.

C: What is it that you find most appealing about leather pants?

H: I'm not sure I want to answer that...I think they look kind of cool. They're really comfortable and warm in the winter. When you look at cows, if they get dirty, they can just walk out in the rain, and it washes off. They're really easy to keep clean. They're shiny, too, so it's kind of like wearing reflective gear all of the time, except they're black.

(continued on page 14)

Going under at Mr. Ups: My dinner with Burgess

By Rodney Rothman

Dining with Russ Burgess is like going bowling with Zeus or seeing a picture of President Clinton naked. There's an awkward tension about the affair, as if you shouldn't be viewing the demigod in such a downright ordinary setting. The wall between performer and audience member is erased. The question is no longer simply whether Burgess can read my mind or put me under hypnosis in under a minute. The question becomes instead, "Does he know he has a piece of rice on his upper lip? How can he know my birthday and not know there's a huge piece of rice just sitting there?"

Dining with Russ Burgess is like eating with your future in-laws — you can never be totally at ease. You feel naked. Every movement betrays you. When I walked into Mr. Up's and shook his hand, I watched his face to see it twitch, to see his eyes light up with the psychic vision at the mere touch of my palm. I expected him to hit the ground, convulsing, frothing at the mouth as he saw my life go flashing before his eyes. Instead, he grabbed my hand, smiled broadly and intoned in his soothing voice, "Hi."

Hi? Hi? I smiled back at him. I didn't say anything. The man is allegedly an Extra Sensory Perception (ESP) master. I had to start testing him out. I looked right in his eyes and thought to myself, "Hello, Mr. Burgess. So nice to see you. How are you doing today?" Russ Burgess stared blankly at me for a second. Finally, he responded "So...Are you ready to sit down?"

Very curious. An ESP master who does not pick up the most basic messages. Very, very interesting.

We took our seats and began to small talk. Russ ordered the first of what would be at least three cups of coffee. I ordered coffee as well, to ensure that my mind would be wide awake and not vulnerable to one of Mr. Burgesses' infamous hypnotic sneak attacks. I'd seen him perform his lightning-quick Vulcan death grip on many an unsuspecting student in the past. I was particularly wary of him trying to distract my attention with the very large blue ring on his right index finger.

At various points during our innocuous conversation, it would catch the ambient Mr. Up's light and flash right in my eyes. I would quickly avert my gaze, but it made me nervous. I considered telling our waitress that if she saw my face inside my soup bowl and a devious Russ Burgess leaning over and whispering evil nothings in my ear that she should call the manager, but I discarded the idea. I was being too paranoid. He seemed like a perfectly normal, nice man. He was telling me about his recent trip to Texas. He was harmless. I had to calm down.

We talked about his business, about the college life, about his early years as a struggling young ESP/Hypnotist guru. I fired questions at him, attempting to debunk his mystical powers. "If you can predict headlines," I queried, "then how come you don't warn people

(continued on page 16)

Tracing the history of bingo fever

By Daniel O'Brien

The High Priestess of Bingo stands alone, number in hand. She is a priestess to chance, she is minister to fortune, she is the all powerful leading a game of bingo in Lower Proctor on Wednesday night.

The multitude, overflowing and brimming with zealous fanaticism, listen intently for the next number. The mythic prize, a gift certificate to Mr. Up's, hangs ripe above their heads. Hearts palpitate. Adrenal glands over-produce. The Priestess of Luck draws the next card.

"B-4", she cries, the card held above her head. "And after!" chant an entire roomful of bingo enthusiasts. You may ask, is this a cult? Are we in Waco? No, this is Middlebury, Vermont and such is the high drama of bingo, a mystical, spiritual communion of man and the unexplainable.

Bingo, with its intrinsic reliance on chance, and its promise of redemption at the risk utter defeat, has fascinated both scribe and artist for centuries, producing volumes of works of epic proportion.

The earliest known artistic representation of Bingo was discovered in 1974 in a cave in Cleveland, Ohio by Raymond Juggs, an out-of-work dental hygienist. The cave drawings, the artistic expression of the ancient aborigine Bing Bing tribes, plainly show the ritual sacrifice of plump virgin llamas (fattened for the slaughter) and bled dry on stone bingo boards. Modern speculation views Stonehenge as the bingo board of the gods. The ancient druids apparently painted themselves blue and acted as human bingo chips in celebration of

(continued on page 14)

Nikki Wood

Bingo enthusiasts Holly Cookis '93 and Ryan Jennings '93 dazedly celebrate their victory in the cut-throat 'Do or Die Round.'

'My Mother' explores women's relationships

Tiffany Claflin

The cast of "My Mother Said I Never Should" patiently waits for the big show this to open weekend.

By Jennifer Kuli

Relationships between mothers and daughters are focal points in women's lives. The tie between a parent and child is an incredibly powerful bond.

Your mother has the power to make you strong, to provide you with a love that you will never find elsewhere. Or she can infuriate you and fill you with insecurity and hatred.

Woven through this relationship is a male figure, either a father-figure or lover. Barbara Kingsolver, an American novelist, says, "women's complaints and discussions about men are the baking soda of their relationships—what makes them bubble and rise."

"My Mother Said I Never Should," by Charlotte Keatley, brings these concepts to life. The three-act play centers around four generations of women, their relationships, and the extent their fathers, lovers and husbands affect them. No doubt, the question "Is this a chick play?" will probably come up at some point. The answer depends on the audience.

If they possess the strength to humble themselves to the art, then it will not matter if the cast is entirely male or female. The action occurs in England from the 1920s to the 1980s, against the backdrop of the changing eras. Doris, Margaret, Jackie and Rosie are the four women whose lives the audience interrupts at certain moments. The storyline jumps from one time period to another in a cinematic fashion, creating a genuine sense of connection between each character's individual life experiences.

The play was first produced at the Contact Theatre, Manchester, in 1987. Since then it has been highly acclaimed, winning the Manchester Evening News Best Play Award the year of its premiere. Middlebury's production of the show will introduce two new actresses to the college theater scene: Kelly Lang '96 and Elena Zucker '96. Michelle Tiefenbrun '94, represents the established contingency of the cast, (having appeared in one other college production) strengthening the other actresses with her own confident grasp of the theater world here at Middlebury.

The cast has been working under the direction of Adrienne Macki '93, who is giving birth to the show as her 700 project.

My Mother Said I Never Should opens Thursday, Nov. 18 and runs through Nov. 20.

You want what you are told to want

By John Colpitts

Statement: There is no good music being created today.

Statement: "Alternative" is a word whose original meaning is subverted by the major label record conglomerates' marketing machine.

Statement: Classic rock is classic because the music business says so.

Statement: All forms of rebellion are packaged.

You attempt to define yourself by what you own. There are no exceptions. What is "in" is arbitrary; the decisions are made by the industry. So, basically, you are welcome to laugh at the 70s, the 80s—just realize that the joke is on you.

So is the same with music. There are maybe five or six true, creative rock musicians/composers in a given generation. The rest are frauds whose motivation to create is generated by the rock-musician-as-icon culture of our nation. As the Music Director of WRMC (that would be the campus radio station), I listen to just about every piece of industry excrement in existence. So, with a fair degree authority, I can tell you that nothing released in the last two years is worth the tin it was printed on.

Although, I hate the music industry, they are not entirely to blame. But they are guilty to a certain degree. Have you ever noticed that all the music that has survived the "test of time" was originally released on a major label? The Sex Pistols, for example, canonized for their "ground-breaking, uncompromising punk" had their first album released by Warner Brothers Records.

College radio, that old benevolent protector goddess for America's unsung, suffering, independent rebel, is now slave to the major label. A look at the "College Music Journal's" top 35 will tell you all you need to know. The top bands are invariably major label acts.

"So what," you say.

Well what is the future of "alternative music" now that the term has lost significant meaning? The age-old platitude, "rock is dead," holds true today, at least temporarily. "Alternative music" is a definition now. Bands fall under this label. There is an "alternative" marketing department in all record companies. So, they have the genre whipped. They look for bands who fall neatly under the "alternative label" and release their albums. The problem is that most music company heads do not love music–they love money.

So they do not want to waste valuable time discovering new bands. They let the minor labels make the breakthroughs then reap the profits.

The bottom line: do not expect great things from the majors. Creativity in modern music is extinct. What you hear is what you are allowed to hear. What you want is what you have been told you want. Don't get defensive, I condemn myself as well.

Tiffany Claflin

Fred Haas takes a break in the Center for the Arts. Unknowing visitors threw coins into the nearby potted plant.

Bingo! How the eternal game shaped our lives

(continued from page 13)

their god's grand design.

Later in history, artists the world over dabbled in bingoesque themes, melding their artistic vision with elements of bingo. Salvador Dali's "Bingo Bidet" offers a surreal vision of the deconstruction of time (reminiscent of Borges) in contrast with the sensuality of cellophane. Dali challenges us with a chilling view of human existence, depicting his naked wife wrapped in Saran Wrap, clutching a board, and screaming "Bingo!," while a dog (perhaps Bingo?) drinks from a bidet.

Philosophy has not ignored bingo's stern questions of chance and fate. Nietszche's "Bingo is Dead," a dissertation on the absence of chance, recognized the omnipotent hand of fate as the guiding force in modern history. Few people are aware that Goethe's best friends called him "Bingoethe" due to a repressed passion collecting blue bingo chips. In 18th century Paris, an entire school of thought, known, simply as "Binguistic Theory," rose up on the shoulders of Pepe Voltaire, debating the ramifications of bingo upon language; and, consequently, bingo's implicit social Darwinism, a point further elaborated on by Darwin himself.

In the world of literature, Samuel Beckett's little known drama "Waiting for Bingot," incorporates bingoistic theory, dramatizing the wait of two French vagrants for the arrival of Bingot, possibly an allusion to the Roman god of floss and oral hygiene, Bingus.

"The Lottery," by Shirley Jackson, originally titled "The Bingo Game," told the story of a small midwestern town gathering for a seemingly harmless game of bingo.The winner, however, was rewarded not with a free meal at Mr. Up's, but rather a ritual stoning and sacrifice to a pagan god, reminiscent of the Bing Bing tribes of Cleveland.

Fans of Bingo should watch for the upcoming opening of the Bingo House on campus, an effort to fill a current deficit of social opportunity and the arrival of the giant bingo dog, to be placed in front of the Arts Center. Bingo, it seems, is eternal, and we, helpless mortal bingo chips, move upon the bingo board of life according to the arbitrary whims of fate.

Chatting with jazz guru

(continued from page 13)

C: How did it feel to watch the growth of the Dig Quintet (whose original members were in Haas' Jazz Improvisation class)?

H: When you first meet and hear a group like that, what strikes you is the raw potential. If you give them everything you can, this is the kind of thing that happens. Now, they're rehearsing three or four times a week; they've got gigs all over campus, and they sound really good. That's exciting. That's why I teach, not at all for the money. As I get older, I realize how important it is to keep feeding students what they need to go on. You never know where one of these special kids is going to come from.

I see teaching as a way to use music to help people learn more about their inner being. They can express themselves in a way they didn't think possible.

C: Does watching them bring back any fond memories for you?

H: When I was their age, or at least in my more formative years, there were always older musicians that would take me under their wing and "zap" me. That is, they'd give me that extra thing that I needed to keep going. In music, there's no point at which you look around and say, "I'm done." That can get a bit frustrating. You can never get there because there isn't any "there" to get to. That's why music is something you have to love and devote your life to. I see teaching as a way to use music to help people learn more about their inner being. They can express themselves in a way they didn't think possible. Because of this, other areas of their life will start to open up to them. It's amazing to facilitate that and then to watch the development of people and their appreciation of life.

Alternative rockers play for AIDS

By Brian Perry

"This is not an alternative rock collection. Alternative rock does *not* exist." These words of explanation are offered at the head of the liner notes for *No Alternative*, a gargantuan 74 minute, 19 track music compilation created to help fund the primary care of and preventative education about AIDS.

The disclaimer seems to acknowledge the tricky spot the producers and marketers of this album were in: while it is easy to say that the oft-abused "alternative" genre is a myth, it is hard to deny the selling power that the name alone has acquired in the past few years.

No doubt choosing a title for a charity record like this must have some money overtones — obviously, the more albums sold, the more money that goes to fighting AIDS.

Either way you look at it, *No Alternative* is an album with multiple missions: one musical and one to benefit public health. And if the former is not a success, everything else is academic.

Compiled by The Red Hot Organization, masterminds behind such previous AIDS benefit albums as *Red, Hot and Blue* and *Red, Hot and Dance*, *No Alternative* is billed as "simply nineteen songs." Every track is original material released only for this album, but not all deal directly with the topic of AIDS. The range of names on the playlist is practically stunning: Smashing Pumpkins, the Beastie Boys, American Music Club, The Breeders, Soul Asylum, Uncle Tupelo, Bob Mould, Matthew Sweet, Soundgarden and, oh yeah, Nirvana, to name ten. The other nine are nothing to cough at, either.

Sonic Youth also did a tune for this album as well, but strangely enough, it is only found on the cassette version. At any rate, the point is that this collection was put together as basically a "who's who" of who's cool now in the world of alternative music (which does not exist). Being cool and sounding cool can be different things, of course. Happily, in this case they are one and the same.

Matthew Sweet kicks off side 'A' with "Superdeformed," a loose and fuzzed-out collection of viscous notes and distorted vocals. Buffalo Tom's "For All to See," a piece of solid, layered and catchy alterna-pop, follows. Soul Asylum covers Marvin Gaye's "Sexual Healing" with a hint of pretentiousness, while Urge Overkill evokes those darn 70s in the quiet "Take a Walk."

American Music Club's track is possibly the best and most affecting song on the album. Over the top of wavering guitars and a rough-around-the-edges rhythm, singer Mark Eitzel gives honest comfort to a friend who is dying from AIDS.

"Everything I say sounds clumsy and dumb. Trying to make you feel better is like trying to trick Saint Peter." As the one who will still be alive, Eitzel can only ask, in disbelief, "Yeah, we had a good time, didn't we?"

The Goo Goo Dolls' Rolling Stones cover of "Bitch" is a track that grows on you, while Pavement saunters through a loosely arranged and highly romanticized tribute to the early days of R.E.M. in "Unseen Power of the Picket Fence," one of the cooler song titles around. "Glynis" by the Smashing Pumpkins is one of their better down-tempo songs. Billy Corgan's vocals are at their dreamiest, floating over a precision-cut stack of guitar layers while breathing, "Yeah, Yeah, I believe...one love." Bob Mould's "Can't Fight It" is a requiem for a relationship. Complete with acoustic guitar and a small orchestra, the excellent lyrics are marred by drums and synthesizer horns that he could have stolen from an 80s Journey ballad.

The other standouts on the album include the Barbara Manning's "Joed Out," the Beastie Boys' 1992 live version of "It's the New Style" off their now-classic album "License to Ill," and The Breeders also live and scathing "Iris."

Ah, and then there was Nirvana. Kurt and the rest of the band do what they do so well, making a spotless uncredited appearance with "Verse Chorus Verse," a song that would have been right at home on *In Utero*.

Placed at the very end of the album, the Nirvana track ends *No Alternative* with a strong and lasting impression. It's also an example of just how good and/or lucky the people that chose these songs were. There are no weak tracks — only songs that aren't quite as good as the great ones.

All the big names are here, but it is the smaller bands that have more of a chance to create an impression. As for the impression of the album as a whole, it is long, diverse, and full of quality bands and their songs that can't be found anywhere else. Not surprisingly, it's not hard to find something to like on *No Alternative*, whether it be the music or the cause it is supporting.

As for the existence of "alternative" music, it all comes down to personal taste. You can read all the labels you want, but you'll never know if you like it until you take a bite.

Filmmaker engages implicit racism

By Lewis Robinson

"There is no perfect cinema," said Dr. Christine Choy, in a discussion which followed the showing of her Academy Award nominated documentary, "Who Killed Vincent Chin?"

"In my film, everyone speaks their own voice," said Choy. The documentary portrays many first-hand accounts of the story of Chinese-American Vincent Chin who was beaten to death by two white men in Detroit over ten years ago.

Choy begins the film with an anonymous elderly white woman standing in a doorway, speaking directly to the camera about the beating. "You can't just walk away from that," she says, while shaking her head. There is no overriding narration; no framework is explicit. This woman is the first piece of Choy's mosaic of voices and images, many of which lead toward a more certain conclusion: that the two men accused of beating Vincent Chin killed him because he looked Japanese, a nationality they blamed for the downfall of the American auto industry.

"Who Killed Vincent Chin" offers this reasonable explanation, though some in the audience questioned Choy's approach, accusing her of being too subjective.

Choy explained that the murder was "not an isolated case;" it must be "put in the context of the economical stresses and political situation of the time." Choy said she made production and editing choices based on her desire to get all important factors out in the open.

Choice is an appropriate issue when it comes to documentary filmmaking. As a film major and aspiring documentary creator Paul Dionne '95 tells, "the main misconception (about documentary films) is that all is real and true, when in fact, all is a construct, a fiction. The film can say anything you want it to say. It's not a record of the objective truth." Dionne is presently working on a video about living in Madawaska, Maine and claims that any "universal truths" come from intimately dealing with the specific. A filmmaker's omnipotent declarations are not the way to find the truth; that, Dionne says, is artificial and pretentious.

Drew Hayes

Christine Choy discusses her film "Who Killed Vincent Chin?"

By admitting that there is "no perfect cinema," Choy reveals her unavoidable subjectivity. And yet, it is her footage of interviews with the men accused that is most convincing. They present their story with sincerity and frankness, and in doing so, they reveal their motives. She chooses to let the men who killed Vincent Chin tell their own story, and it turns out to be a story that implicitly accuses the economic, political and social ills of our society. Choy succeeds by subjectively crafting a film which depends on specific, clearly presented images. Ultimately, by revealing her point of view, she has let the viewer discern the rest.

Where you should be this weekend...

Thursday:

8 p.m. "My Mother Said I Never Should," by Charlotte Keatley. Directed by Adrienne Macki, '94. Hepburn Zoo. $1

8 p.m. "Anne Janson Flute Recital," featuring pieces by Durey, Martinu, Mozart, and Beethoven. Arts Center Concert Hall. Free, tickets required.

Friday:

8 p.m. "My Mother Said I Never Should"

8 p.m. "Tom Howes and Students." An evening of original folk guitar compositions. Arts Center Concert Hall.

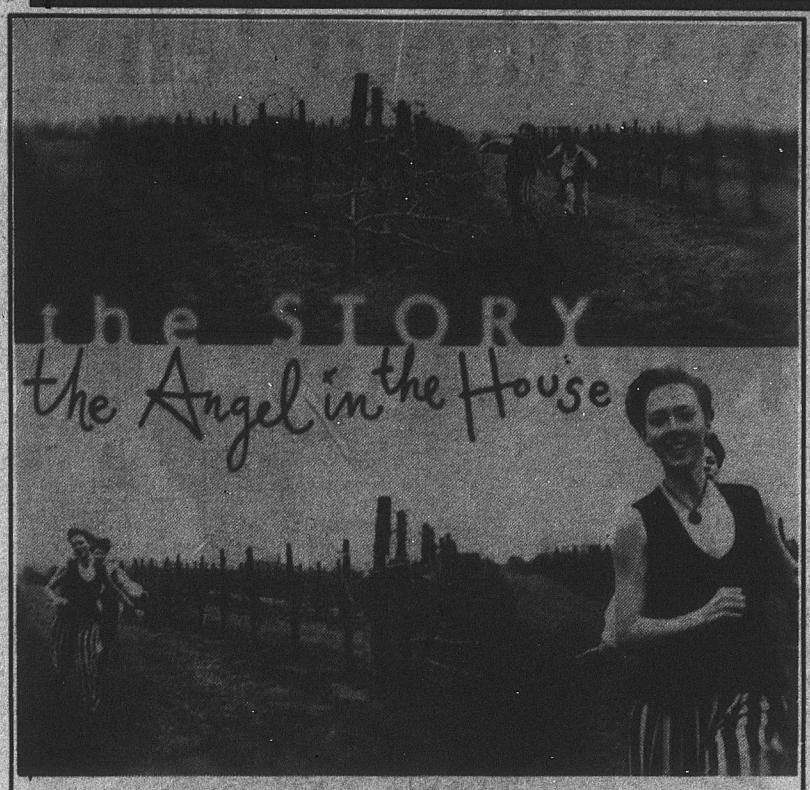
9:30 p.m. "Bim Skala Bim." Boston's preeminent ska masters play in the name of Building with Books and Global Links. McCullough Floor. Tickets $6 with student ID/$8 without at door.

Satuday:

8:00 p.m. "My Mother Said I Never Should"

Sunday:

10:00 p.m. "Woods Tea Company" in the Gamut Room.



Greenwood's groove:
Story lacks coherence

By Dan Greenwood

Alternately classified as folk, women's music or the dreaded "adult contemporary," the Story have been carving out a base of fans from all over the music world. Their first album, 1992's *Grace in Gravity*, was originally published on the singer/songwriter division of Green Linnet, a small record label oriented toward Celtic music, but got picked up and rereleased after a few months by Elektra Records. Much greater circulation has led to an increase in their popularity, and their newest album, *The Angel in the House*, has been a great follow up.

The Story are Jonathan Brooke, vocals and guitar, and Jennifer Kimball, vocals. Their harmonies are superb, often with two contrasting lead parts or dissonance resolving beautifully. Brooke writes songs based on her life and work in dance which consistently touch a nerve or surprise.

"The Barefoot Ballroom" describes a lonely woman's depression in a haunting, unsettling melody accompanied by equally disturbing words. "Fatso" deals with weight and body image, a subject rarely addressed in songs. The chorus captures the source: "Because someone will adore me when my ribs show clearly/ And I'm thin even when I sit down;" the last line needs no comment: "I want to be skinny (Oh I am so hungry.)"

In discussing the album, my bias against large scale production shows through. I love the Story's music, but I feel that *Angel in the House* is a largely overproduced album. The songs would be much more effective with less accompaniment. True, the Latin flair added by extra percussion on several tracks would change the flavor of those songs, but in general, Brooke's excellent guitar work gets steamrolled by the drums, keys, and electric guitars in arrangements unnecessary for such great writing. So ironically, the gems of the album are not the strongest songs ("The Barefoot Ballroom" and "So Much Mine") but those like the traditional "In the Gloaming," featuring only their voices and a subtle piano.

Of course, this is just my opinion, and I am probably still looking at the Story as the folk outfit they once were, reluctant to accept their appeal as a pop act. *The Angel in the House* definitely has a lot of pop appeal, capturing a variety of sounds in a very unique blend. And what would their response to my criticisms be? Probably the title of the CD Bonus track, included as "Fatso" counterbalance: "Yo Estoy Bien Asi: I Feel Fine the Way I Am."

Improv group does Gamut Room

By Gene Swift

Last Wednesday, a handful of student improv comedians took over the Gamut Room for the performance of "Harold," a complex improvisation structure never before performed on the Middlebury campus.

The comedians, all members of the Otter Nonsense Players (ONP), encountered the structure at the National College Comedy Festival during last year's ONP tour and used the Gamut Room's intimate atmosphere to experiment with the structure.

The experiment was a success, as the standing-room only crowd repeatedly confirmed with its applause.

Rodney Rothman '95 acted as spokesman for the group, which included Will Dobson '95, Matthew Lane '94, Jason Mantzoukas '95, Emily Raabe '94 and Margaret "Mug" Wright '94.

The evening began with a disclaimer which reminded the audience that what they were about to experience was almost pure improv, allowing the comedians the freedom to experiment. No one in the audience walked out at this point, suggesting that the average Middlebury student is ready to forgive stumbling moments in order to witness a higher form of improvisation.

"Harold" is a structure which expands upon a single word, provided by the audience. The group agreed on the word "truck," and away they went.

The structure first called on the players to build a "machine" of actions and corresponding sounds or short lines all having something to do with the word truck.

Once built, the machine stopped periodically as the members stepped forward individually to deliver one-liners based on the truck theme.

Then, the machine gave way to three unconnected scenes, each performed by a pair of comedians, which were mingled together in a cross-cut fashion.

After the scenes had been established and a dramatic conflict defined in each, the group turned out the lights and enacted a "radio drama" (complete with commercial sponsors), involving a notorious Bandit-type trucker (Dobson), his girlfriend (Raabe) and the sheriff in hot pursuit (Wright).

The entire show lasted roughly thirty minutes, so naturally, there were the canned gags and "old jokes" seen many times before, and at times, the humor drifted towards the easy jokes, but overall, the humor was able to develop thanks to the nature of the structure and the talent of the comedians involved.

Many strong characterizations came from the word "truck," including an eager youngster (Rothman) looking to become apprentice to the best of the truckers (Dobson), and a female piglet-shipping trucker (Raabe) who loses her truck to a flippantly-irresponsible hitchhiker (Mantzoukas).

There were few weak moments in the performance, and each member of the sextet had moments of glory in the 30 minute show.

It was particularly good to see Raabe stand her ground among her comic companions, having come out of the "improv-retirement" just for this show.

She proved that much of what improv is depends on how well you can give and take from your performing partners.

All in all, the six comedians turned out some entertaining material, despite the new structure and one word prompt. Hopefully, this performance will lead to further heightening and exploration of the art of improv comedy here at Middlebury.

Eating with Burgess

(continued from page 13)

of great disasters, play the lottery and win millions or at least get a sneak peak at the next Calvin and Hobbes?"

He countered with a tale of how he had attempted to stop the Robert Kennedy assassination. He claimed that somewhere in his home was a laminated letter, addressed to Kennedy's assistants, that had warned them of the time and place of his death. As he told the story, I could swear his eyes turned into swirling spirals, drawing me in. My incredulous attitude dissipated immediately. I believed every word. At the end of the story, I said, "that's incredible!" and ate another piece of bread, shaking my head in wonder.

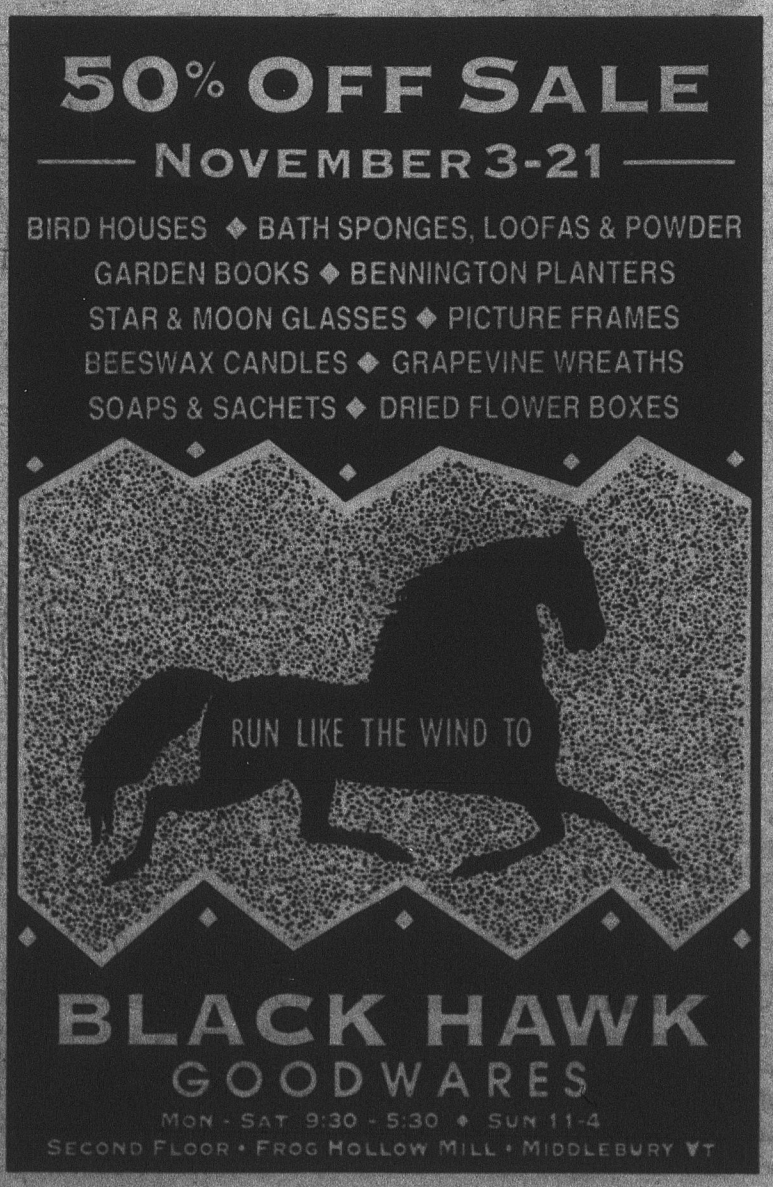
Later in the meal, in an offhand way, he told me to pick a number from one to hundred. Before I said a thing he started scribbling on a piece of paper. I thought of the number 93. He asked me "Is there a nine in the number?" I said, "Yes." He said, "What is the number?" I said, "93."

For a second I thought I saw his hand imperceptibly move as he held the paper out to me. It moved just enough that a masterful magician with a very small pencil could have been writing on the slip. Regardless of any tricks, the paper he handed to me, the paper he had ostensibly written out before I spoke said "93" on it in a messy scribble. Damn him.

A few hours later, Burgess stood on stage in front of a few hundred Middlebury students and proceeded to pull birthdays, serial numbers, answers to personal problems that were both asked of him and not asked of him, cards and headlines out of thin air. It was amazing. Reality did not exist in the room.

Despite everything they had been taught, despite ordinary common sense, there were at least 300 grown adults, including myself, believing in ESP, believing in the power of Russ. I thought of one of the last things he had said to me during dinner, how in that offhand way he had mentioned that I was going to be very successful in life. I wanted to believe him. Heck, I needed to believe him.

Yet a few days later Russ has moved on to Boston, reality has come back to Middlebury, and neither ESP, the Easter bunny or unlimited Ben and Jerry's in the dining halls exists on campus. The Zeus of ESP and hypnosis has left for another year, leaving everyone just amazed enough to not wonder whether it was real or not. My last thought is that the man continually called me "Ron" throughout dinner. He forgot my name. Hmm. Draw your own conclusions.



Don't leave Middlebury without 'em:
Experiences you should not miss

Dining hall food has possibilities

By David Huneryager

All right, my big problem is this: I have been here for more than two months, yet I cannot stop myself from hunching over and grasping my stomach whenever I enter one of the dreaded food service institutions of Middlebury College.

It is not that Middining is that bad (well, yes it is), it just seems repetitive. The days when they serve tofu steak and grilled cheese seem to come around much more often than my favorites days of roast beef and home fries.

Some days I do not eat anything but Golden Grahams and Cheerios. This is definitely a big problem. I figure that even after I make it through this semester, I still must eat in a dining hall 1,617 more times. Ugh.

If you are haveing the same problem, and need some food product to cheer you up when you enter the dining halls (specifically the SDUs), think Sunday brunches.

Even if you dine elsewhere at every other meal all week, don't skip the dining hall on Sundays. Not for the eggs that would oil your car if you could squeeze them, and not for the English muffins that go a mile underground in those demented toaster things, but for the chance to make your own waffle.

A great addition to your eating pleasure is the total-tray spill. This is kind of a taboo subject. I remember being told at orientation not to laugh, because "it will happen to you."

Here's what to do: cut in front of the eggs-to-order line (it is definitely not 'your-way-right-away at Burger King now') and head straight to the waffle machines.

First of all (and this is important), *do not* follow the instructions. If you do, you will get something which resembles a slightly bloated, pale pancake that is stuck to the iron.

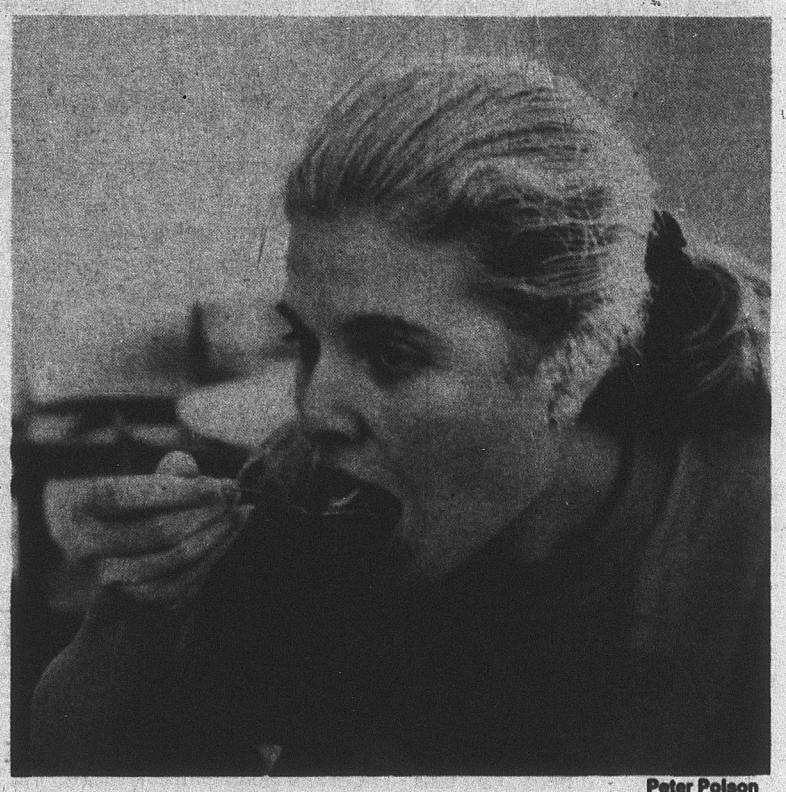
Spray the irons until the can runs out. Use at least three scoops of goo. Turn the dial past a minute and a half each time. Yeah, prying the waffles out is a pain, but once you get them to your seat, laden with syrup, bacon and peanut butter on both sides, make them into a sandwich (my specialty). Sure, it sounds a bit strange, but try it. It may add something new and different to your dining experience. Another complaint I have is about the relatively boring atmosphere of these places. They occasionally play decent music (thank the crews at Hamlin and Freeman for this), but when the conversation lulls (not that this ever happens at my table), you need some excitement.

A great addition to your eating pleasure is the total-tray spill. This is kind of a taboo subject. I remember being told at orientation not to laugh, because "it will happen to you."

I figure that it will happen to me. It will happen as I am coming downstairs from the second floor of Upper Proctor, when everyone is watching. I am counting on a dead silence of about two seconds before the place erupts. In the meantime, I am determined to get my laughs in while I can.

I have already seen one really great spill at Hamlin: two of my friends, tacos and guacamole, all spinning everywhere. The crashees had to mop it up themselves.

I can assure you, I was not the only one laughing. So if it happens to you, remember that we are laughing at you, not with you. Maybe we are laughing at ourselves for paying so much money to have all-you-can-eat egg foo yung and spinach quiche.



Peter Poison

Students bored of the standard fare can find respite from the monotony of cereal and bagels at Sunday morning brunch.

MCAB can add a little spice to life

By Claire Calvin

MCAB. These letters don't only stand for Middlebury College Activities Board, they spell fun at Middlebury. Now, I'm not saying that I've been to every single MCAB event in my three years at Middlebury, nor would I recommend doing so to anyone, but I must say that our peers on the board do put together some events that you just should not miss.

Every fall, Middlebury goes Vegas for Casino Night. Students put on their finest duds, have a few cocktails and get psyched up to gamble. The best part is that you can feel like a big spender without losing a dime, since they give you play money when you walk in the door.

And, in the spirit of Las Vegas, students of legal age are treated to free drinks to encourage them to bet, bet, bet.

The dealers are students and faculty, so it's fun to sit at a table and play, even if you don't care about the money at all.

One Casino Night activity that I and many students particularly enjoy does not involve skill at gambling at all: stealing. Last year my accomplice and I racked in a cool half mil.

This year, however, security measures were a bit tighter, and we did not fare so well. We didn't win anything in the raffle either year anyway, but we had a blast.

I must also commend MCAB on one recent addition to their event repertoire: video DJ's. If you like to dance, this is just one more thing to check out on weekends in McCullough.

The other MCAB event that is a must-see is the annual spring concert. Last year we had the 10,000 Maniacs here for the first stop on their summer tour.

The year before, we were privileged enough to have The Village People among us.

What can I say about such a group of songsters? If you were here and you missed it, you really missed it. If you were not yet a Middlebury student, you can just hope they will come back.

Abdul Kalaff

10,000 Maniacs performed last year for a packed house, with former lead singer Natalie Merchant.

Every little bit counts

By Jennifer Varney

Apart from working, sleeping and playing, many Middlebury students do not think there is much to do in our small, isolated community.

Some students, however, seem to find all kinds of opportunities to get involved with the community and have fun at the same time.

These students volunteer with the many organizations that exist on campus and in Addison County, and have a great time while doing something worthwhile.

Middlebury College has its own group of volunteers, called the Middlebury Volunteer Program. These students, led by Tiffany Sargent, meet every Monday at 6 p.m. in the Hamlin seminar room.

They organize things such as the canned food drive, for which boxes are visible all over campus, and the alternative February break program, in which a group of students travel to Boston or New York City to spend their vacation working in shelters for the homeless or battered.

Community Friends of Addison County sponsors the very popular Big Brother/ Big Sister program. Many Middlebury students take the opportunity to spend time with children from the surrounding community.

Being a Big Brother or Big Sister does not necessarily involve a large money or time commitment; simply taking a child to dinner at Hamlin can be fun.

"I wanted a Little Sister because I am an only child, and I always wanted a little sister who was like me; who liked to play sports and be active—someone to have fun with," said Lisa Old '96. "It's neat to know that this person looks up to you and that you are influencing them in a good way."

Chris Zegarelli '96 said, "I had a big brother when I was younger and now I want to return the favor."

Some of the one-day annual activities that students can take part in include: the Hunger Clean-Up, the Crop Walk and Into the Streets.

One activity which has ongoing projects is the Rutland Regional Habitat for Humanity, which provides shelter for people who either do not have homes or need better ones. It is run by the community, and a student group on campus contributes to the effort.

Often the number of students depends on the amount of work that needs to be done. Sometimes only two students are needed, while other times they need eight or nine. Middlebury students usually participate on Saturdays, for either a full day or a half day, whichever they feel they can give.

All of these opportunities are volunteer and all require at least a small time commitment, but those who are involved believe that they are invaluable experiences.

Walker is well worth the drive every year

By Chip Earle

Jerry Jeff Walker is a little known country singer from Texas who generally restricts his tours to that state. But once every fall he plays at Dartmouth for his fans in the North. Why he comes all of the way up to New England to play such a small gig is beyond me, especially since I know for a fact that he did not attend Dartmouth, but I am not complaining.

I went to the concert last year, but had to miss it this year — hopefully I will not be so unlucky next year. It was the best concert I have ever seen. He sang all of my favorites, plus some new stuff. The intimate atmosphere added to the flavor.

Jerry Jeff has been on the country scene for many more years than I have been listening to it, and his songs are timeless. With such hits as "Up Against the Wall Redneck Mother," and "I Feel Like Hank Williams Tonight," he has gathered a wide and faithful following.

After the concert was over, I went to a fraternity party and drank beers with Jerry Jeff. It was kind of a big deal for me because he is my favorite singer. It turns out that he just so happens to be an honorary brother of the fraternity. In fact, he lives up to his membership, drinking like a brother. I managed to corner him in the bathroom and get his signature, though his state of intoxication made it a bit illegible.

I recommend going next year if you get the chance. He usually comes up right around Halloween. The only problem is that the drive home is a pain in the butt. I suggest crashing in someone's room instead of making the trek back at two in the morning.

Not only is it a long drive at that hour, but it limits the number of beers you can share with the legendary country singer and his fraternity "brothers."

Tiffany Claflin

The Vermont wilderness offers innumerable escapes from the daily pressures of academic life.

Lake Dunmore provides a relaxing hideaway

By Aerie Treska

Although Lake Dunmore probably brings images of 5 a.m. practices and frigid temperatures for the crew team, for me it has a calming effect. I think of a placid stretch of water, the warm sun on my back, and the feeling that summer is not as far off as I thought.

Worries about exams, packing and getting a job disappear the moment the lake shows itself from behind the trees.

I first discovered the little beach last spring during final exams. After parking our car along the old road, climbing over the "Not yet open for the season" fence, and walking under the arches of blooming apple trees, we found ourselves on a tiny stretch of sand.

The spot was empty because the lake itself was still chilly, and the only sounds were the water lapping against the shore and a fisherman casting his line from an old red rowboat.

Just the sort of peace we needed for studying, since that was what we were supposedly there to do.

Obviously, we did not get much work done. I went through the motions, staring blindly at my notebook for a bit. But the sun, the blue sky and the fact that the grass was finally green made it tough to concentrate.

Finally, I gave in and just lay there soaking up the warmth of the place. Stress leaked out of my pores, I replaced some of my winter paleness with color, and I actually allowed myself to realize that only a few days of tests separated me from summertime.

I do not recommend this spot for hard-core students or stress junkies, or anyone who is afraid of a little cold water. And I do not think people thirsting for excitement would be all that impressed, although a group of us got up a rousing game of wiffle ball there one spring evening.

But for those of you needing a calm spot in which to gather your strength for finals, Lake Dunmore is the perfect choice. Just make sure you take a watch and some self-control, or you might end up staying there until darkness drives the sun away.

At Winter Carnival, it's got to be snowing before the fun can begin

By Jon Herman

Scientists have thoroughly proven that the weather is one of the few things that are completely chaotic. Through this chaos theory analysis, we know that successfully predicting the weather is rather impossible without using percentages or the word "chance." And we all know that altering the weather is even more impossible than predicting it.

This makes planning for the Middlebury Winter Carnival a very difficult and chancy process. This is unfortunate, because no one attending Middlebury should miss a Winter Carnival, especially one for which there is an abundance of snow.

File photo

Music, dancing and the transformation of Pepin Gym drew many students to the Winter Carnival Ball last February.

At a snowless Winter Carnival, people can enjoy the carnival parties, watching the college's figure skaters, and the Winter Ball. But there is a noticeable absence of that carnival spirit and fun. The feeling is that of any other Middlebury weekend. Many people skip it altogether to study or sleep.

At a white Winter Carnival, the spirit is in the air. Everyone forgets about work and worries. Part of the feeling comes from just the sight of everyone outside. It sometimes seems as if Middlebury is somewhat of a desolate prison in the winter; everyone locked up in their dorms hiding from the cold.

At a snow-filled carnival, everyone is outside rejoicing in the splendor of Vermont and giving thanks to the snow gods. You can take a wild ride in the canoe/bobsled run, create a towering snow sculpture of a toilet, play broomball or even take a dog-sled ride. Even the events that do not require snow are much more fun (and certainly have a higher turnout). Students go that much crazier at the parties, the applause is that much louder at the ice show, and more people are excited at the ball.

Winter Carnival is a great way to release pent-up energy and help get you through the winter. You will never feel more spirit for this college than at these events. The studying and worrying can wait and so can the sleep. Just go and have fun. Hey, we even get a day off for it!

Eat at Steve's, for hot food and hotter gossip

By Jed Morse

Steve's Park Diner constitutes one of Middlebury's perennial attractions. The restaurant's "greasy spoon" delights and flexible hours fill a void in the array of dining options downtown.

It falls somewhere between the myriad of pizza joints and the "uptown" fare offered at Mr. Up's or Woody's. The folks at Steve's serve up the tastiest breakfast and lunch menu around, and the best thing about it is that it fits into a college budget.

In fact, you find out quite a lot just by observing who comes in with whom. Some folks think that they are being discreet by not going to Proctor. They couldn't be more wrong.

The fact that the diner opens a few short hours after the Crest Room shuts down and serves breakfast until its doors close at three o'clock in the afternoon makes Steve's a very popular place for those who are recovering from the previous evening or for those who have not quite finished the previous evening's festivities.

It is not only the food that separates Steve's from just another roadside attraction. It is the community atmosphere that makes the Park Diner "a must" during one's four years at Middlebury. The cozy booths are filled with students and town residents alike — all happily eating and conversing, conversing and eating.

And, if you listen closely to the people sitting next to you, you can find out the most interesting things that happened that weekend. In fact, you find out quite a lot just by observing who comes in with whom. Some folks think that they are being discreet by not going to Proctor.

They couldn't be more wrong. Seeing the surprise on the rosy faces of a brand new couple who think that they have safely eluded their friends, only to run into all of them at Steve's, makes it all worthwhile.

One cannot find this kind of drama at the Center for the Arts, much less at Proctor! Only at Steve's Park Diner can one get a satisfying breakfast as well as all the latest news.

For all of the good "dirt" one can pick up on any given Sunday, Steve's gets a clean bill of health every time.

CLASSIFIEDS

Cruise Ship Jobs! Students needed! Earn $2000+ monthly. Summer/holidays/fulltime. World travel. Caribbean, Hawaii, Europe, Mexico. Tour guides, gift shop sales, deck hands, casino workers, etc. No experience necessary. Call 602-680-4647, Ext. C147.

Wanted: Student to braid hair of African American three year old. Once a month, $30.00, your place or ours. Call 388-3646.

SPRING BREAK: Seven nights from $299. Includes: Air, Hotel, Transfers, parties, and more! Nassau, Paradise Island, Cancun, Jamaica, San Juan. Organize a small group. earn FREE trip plus commissions! 1-800-426-7710.

Come and join us for the 17th Annual Turkey Trot and Gobble Wobble on Nov. 21 at 12 noon. Pre-register by calling Middlebury Parks and Recreation Department at 388-4041. Register for $10 before November 18, with T-shirts going to the first 150 registrants. Turkeys awarded in all age categories. Sponsored by Mad River Auto of Bristol and Fraga & Lilja, CPAs.

'92 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4. Black, 36.5 miles, vehicle has always been garaged. Buff, but owner just got a company car. $18,000 O.B.O. Call Marc in Burlington at 863-2511 days or 660-9633 evenings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notice: In order for students to be paid before Thanksgiving break, time cards must be returned to the Student Employment Office by Friday, Nov. 19.

Campus wide canned food drive!!! On Sunday, Nov. 6, a campus-wide canned and nonparishable food drive began. The drive will continue through

Thanksgiving when cans will be donated to Addison County Action Group. The drop-off boxes will be located in dorms, upper Proctor, the mailroom, Old Chapel, Munroe, the Science Center and Twilight. Student and faculty support is greatly needed. It does not take much to donate several cans. Please help out!!

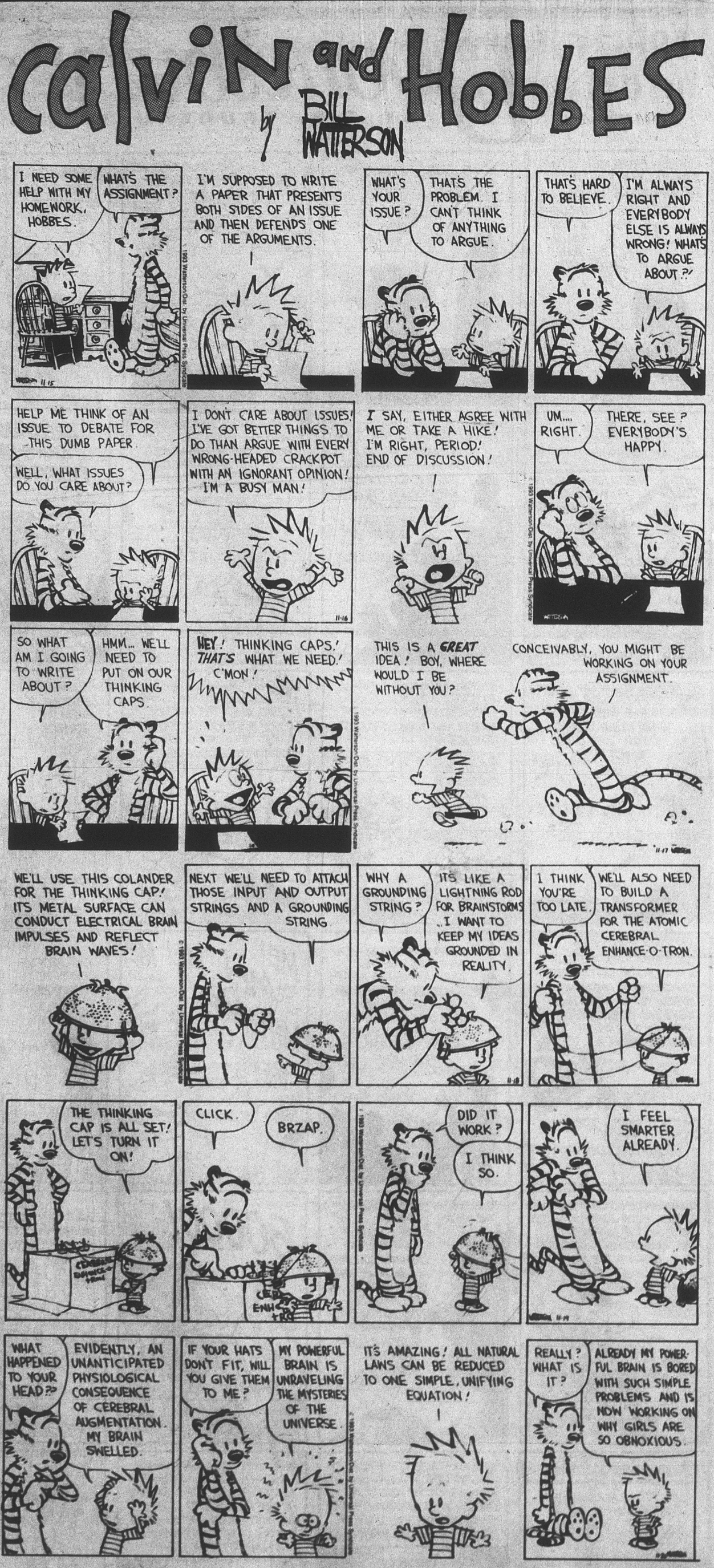
$24,000 Fellowships for Future Teachers: The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, a federally-endowed program designed to strengthen instruction about the Constitution in the nation's schools, will award generous fellowships in 1994 for masters-level graduate study of the framing and history of the U.S. Constitution. College seniors and college graduates who intend to become secondary school teachers of American history, American government and social studies are eligible for awards. For more information, call Mr. Dry at ext. 5305.

Don't forget, seniors: The deadline for yearbook pictures in Thanksgiving break. Also needed, random candids. Drop pictures in box 2697 or Drawer 31.

"My Mother Said I Never Should," a moving contemporary British drama of women's lives written by Charlotte Keatly, will be performed Thursday, Nov. 18 through Saturday, Nov. 20 in the Hepburn Zoo. Seating is limited. Tickets are $1 and reservations can be made by calling the Arts Center Box Office at ext. SHOW. For more information, contact Adrienne Macki at ext. 6924.

Winter Parking Ban: The winter parking ban took effect on Nov. 1, 1993 and is in effect through April 1, 1994. The ban prohibits parking on town streets between midnight and 6:00 a.m. All night parking is permitted in the lower municipal lot on Bakery Lane and in any other municipal lot where signs have been erected allowing all night parking.

Reminder: Students and Faculty are reminded of the adjustment in class meetings next Monday and Tuesday. The regular Thursday class meeting schedule will be followed on Monday, Nov. 22 and the Friday schedule will be used on Tuesday, Nov. 23. The adjustment accompanies a calendar change for the mid-term break which made that recess coincide with the days when area public schools were not in session. The adjustment was suggested by, and supported by, many employees of the college.



Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU

PERSONALS

Jailed art thief wishes to correspond with any student whose fingerprints are not on file in Washington. Art history majors especially sought after. Box 500, 79B609 Elmira, NY 14902.

To "Mike"- your Grateful Dead cassette and letter can be picked up at Security.

Vote Jean(ie) for queen
She keep her room clean
and is never mean
(except in the rugby scene)

NSPA- Thanks for the best round of golf ever.

SWM, Junior, British/Australian/Vermont accent, seeks small to medium-sized farm animals and beavers. Flying and cricket experience helpful but not necessary. Reply to MC box 2478.

To my Cook Commons Council Crush- Sorry we missed each other at the ball, but bad timing will never hinder true love.

Hey Boxo, is that new cologne you're wearing?

"That guy" lives. —Sir Cumference

Tom LaMotte for King!

OVERHEARDS

Feb senior man: Are you going to do it?
Feb senior woman: I'm doing it right now.
Feb senior man: Well, I have to get off the phone cause I'm losing my erection.

"Sow how come we're the only animals that use lingerie?"
—3rd floor Painter

"Mmmmm."
—3rd floor Painter

"Oh no, I'm in a Scott sandwich."
—at the MCAB dance

Shepard's pie is the antithesis of all you believe in, isn't it?
—overheard in Proctor

"Why doesn't he just go back to England and stew himself?
—in reference to a super-velocitized land roving Brit.

"I think you should probably work your way down."
—Gifford Lounge symposium

"I'm not going to say it [motherf***er] because then you will all run back to the newspaper and print it for all the world.
—Cautious, but apparently not cautious enough, Classics professor

"Like, in the 50s, Nixon was known as 'Mr. Communism!'" —AC 220

"Maybe we should just put down astroturf all over campus, with runway lights to mark the path. I believe that would fit the aesthetic plan."
-SGA snickering

"Remember Rob, a clean fish is a healthy fish." —Jen

"It's all fun and games until you realize that you're not having any fun and you don't like any of the games." —Spock

"Stop petting me."
"If I were petting you, you'd know it."
—overheard at Mister Up's.

Campus positions, J-Term and spring semester 1994

The following positions with The Middlebury Campus are open for the upcoming semesters. Newly elected staff members will be trained before the fall exam schedule and during winter term. The new staff will be chosen by the current editorial board.

Applications for all positions will be available at the Student Information Desk in McCullough beginning Monday, Nov. 22. Please return completed applications to Drawer 30 by Friday, Dec. 3. Interviews will be scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 11.

If you have any questions please contact Jim Oleske at ext. 3993 or Kitty Loos at ext. 6202.

Advertising Manager: Solicit and layout ads. Must be outgoing, motivated and organized. Knowledge of PageMaker a bonus. Must be comfortable with telephone skills and bookkeeping. **Paid Position.**

Features Editor: Responsible for the creation and assignment of novel, interesting and pertinent story ideas. If you do not consider yourself quite adept at squeezing creativity out of what will become the barren desert of your mind, this position is not for you. Simultaneously, this position offers an exciting level of freedom, which allows the editor to shape the section as opposed to the section shaping the editor. Must oversee layout of section.

Arts Editor: Main responsibility is creating and assigning articles for the section each week. Insider knowledge of the Middlebury arts community is helpful, as is a willingness to pursue off-campus story ideas. Must oversee layout of section.

In Depth Editor: Must be able to come up with innovative and multi-dimensional topics to examine each week. A good sense of student interests and a creative eye are beneficial. Responsible for assigning and editing all stories and overseeing the layout of the section.

Sports Editor: Assigns and edits all sports stories. Should be familiar with members and coaches of Middlebury athletic teams and in touch with non-varsity activities. Must oversee layout of section.

Opinions Editor: Responsible for soliciting and editing opinions pieces, letters to the editor and editorial cartoons. Must have a keen interest in campus life and sharp eye for controversy. Having a fancy for bickering and bad puns also helps. Must oversee layout of section.

Photo Editor: Responsible for assigning and taking photos. Must have good technical skills and be able to focus a camera. Dependability is a necessity.

Copy Editor: Responsible for the elimination of all spelling, punctuation and typographical errors. Some late nights required. Above-average spelling and grammar skills a must. Knowledge of PageMaker program a plus but not a requirement. You will be part of a team of copy editors, so flexibility and an ability to work well with others (and an adequate supply of No-Doz) would be advantageous. **Paid Position.**

Positions as assistant section editors and production assistants are available and will be chosen from the applicant pool.

Arriving Daily!
New Clothing from:
North Face
Marmot
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In the ♥ of Middlebury
388-6762 • Open 7 days

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· Looking to get in *Great Shape*?
· Looking for a *Great Time*?
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Check out our College Discount Step Class Package
4 Classes for $16.00
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CALL OR STOP IN TODAY!
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This special offer expires November 30th

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Alex Grossman

Perky Mackey '95, a member of the alpine ski team, takes part in pre-season conditioning.

Expect success from Nordic skiers

By Megan Feeney

Middlebury's men's and women's Nordic teams are looking forward to yet another successful season of Division I skiing. After the encouraging first snowfall, these 11 men and 13 women are crossing their fingers and hoping for an early arrival of Vermont's winter. Coach Patty Ross, although always hesitant to make predictions, anticipates a strong year. Last year, the women were "pretty consistently the second team in the East, right behind UVM. We definitely have the potential to beat UVM this year."

Ross says her confidence is based on the depth of the women's team. Six women travel with the varsity team, but Ross says of this year's women, "there are nine that could be carnival skiers."

Last year's returning NCAA qualifiers include Rikka Pakkala '94, Amy Hollingsworth '94, Kristin Daly '94, Sarah Rabinowitz 'SP and Casey Clifford '96. To this proven excellence, the team adds the freshness of Becky Irwin '96 and first year students Jessie Donovan, Molly Enman and Nadya Bech-Conger.

Of the chance for success at Middlebury's Winter Carnival, the determinate of the Eastern Championships, Ross says, "the potential is definitely there." But as dictated by the conglomerate scoring system of the carnivals, tallying the scores of men's and women's Nordic and alpine teams into one group result, the women's success depends on the men's success.

Disappointment is not likely. Returning NCAA qualifier and co-captain, Zach Caldwell '94 will lead the team with co-captain Chris Dahl '94. Ryder Clifford '94 is back from a year of skiing with some of the best skiers in the world in Norway. Dan Contrell '96, who narrowly missed NCAA qualifications last year, "should be pretty hungry" for a great season.

To this impressive list of Division I experience, some new faces are added to the team. Ryan Brooks '96, who was a top junior competitor in the country two years ago, will have his first collegiate season, recovered from a car accident last year. First-year student Jay Leach, last year's number one junior competitor in the east, joins the team as well.

Clearly, Middlebury's Nordic team has much to look forward to this year, not only in potential for athletic accomplishment but in opportunities to prepare for the competition. For Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks, the teams will travel together to Mount St. Anne's in Quebec for training.

In January, even before their first meet at Sugarloaf, Maine, Head Coach Terry Aldrich will travel with a group of twelve skiers to the U.S. Nationals in Alaska, the qualifying event for the US Olympic team. Theoretically, all twelve Middlebury skiers will be trying out. But Ross says the Olympics is not anyone's immediate goal. Still, she says, "What a great experience for college skiers."

Undoubtedly, we can expect to see all the experience and hard training make for another strong ski season.

Cross country triumphs

(Continued from page 24)

effort was certainly the best of the season for the men.

Ryder Clifford '94 led the charge with a time of 25:46 on the eight kilometer course to finish 22nd. Jake Kritzer '96 followed 13 seconds later in 34th. Zach Laidley '95 was third for the team in 38th place, another 13 seconds behind Kritzer, followed by Cisco Heller '95, eight seconds back in 46th, and Ollie Truog '95 in 57th, six seconds behind Heller. That constituted five runners across the line in 40 seconds, a truly outstanding accomplishment for any team. It is the mark of a highly competitive race that those 40 seconds translated into 35 places. Doug Griffith '96 ran sixth for the team in 84th place and Sean Kerwin '95 was seventh in 86th place.

Despite a tremendous effort and a fast time, Clifford was a bit disappointed with his result on Saturday. Everybody who has followed the runners this season knows that he had a legitimate chance at one of the five available individual qualifying spots for the national championship. As far as Aldrich is concerned, the flat course definitely hurt Clifford's result and may have cost him a berth in the NCAAs. As Aldrich noted, Clifford easily beat one of the individuals who qualified on a hilly course earlier in the season.

There is little doubt that, despite a less than ideal course, the Middlebury cross country team saved its best effort for the last race of the regular season. As Aldrich noted, "practically everybody ran a personal best time." Any time a team can do that at the end of a long hard season, you can be sure that they were well prepared and that they will be pleased with their efforts.

The women's cross country team will leave on Thursday for Iowa and what Aldrich describes as "a hilly course for a national championship."

With another week to sharpen up, another week's recovery for Anastasio and a worthy cross country course, Aldrich is sure that the best is yet to come for the women's team. He was confident enough to say, "We can beat Colby and we have an outside chance at Williams. Top ten in the nation is a realistic goal for this team."

Season Openers

•**Men's basketball** opens tomorrow, Friday, November 19 hosting St. Lawrence University's team. On November 20, they host Clarkson; tip-off time is 4:00.

•**Women's basketball** opens their season with the NESCAC Tip-Off at Trinity. On Saturday, they play Connecticut College followed by a Sunday game against Hamilton.

•**Men's hockey** begins their regular season at Bowdoin with a 7:00 game Friday against the Polar Bears. On Saturday, they take on the Colby Mules.

•**Women's hockey** travels to Williams for their season opener on November 20.

•**Women's squash** will go to Bates on Saturday for their first match up, where they also play Colby.

•**Swimming** will have their first meet at Wesleyan on Saturday.

Football breaks .500

(Continued from page 24)

a disaster, leaving the Panthers facing a fourth and long from inside their own five yard line. Rather than risk getting the kick blocked, senior punter and receiver Jim O'Brien backed out of the endzone to take the safety, counting on the kick from the 20 yard line and Middlebury's defense to keep the Jumbos out of the endzone.

Down by two points, with fewer than two minutes remaining, the Jumbos put together a drive that was kept alive by a crucial fourth and 12 conversion and a 15 yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty against the Panthers.

Tufts drove to the Middlebury five, where they set up for the winning field goal with five seconds left to play. Say what you want about the Panthers, they never give up. As the Jumbos snapped the ball, confident that their kicker could not miss a 20 yard chip, Middlebury defensive lineman, Tony Civale '96, broke through the line to block the low kick and preserve the Panther victory.

With the win, the Panthers secured a winning season and preserved their undefeated record on the road. "We only felt we let one game get away from us," said Casarico, referring to the 8-7 loss to Colby early in the season. If that game had gone the other way, the Panthers would have finished tied with Wesleyan for the third best record in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC). Instead, they placed fifth.

They also close the season confident that next year's team will be able to continue the new habit of winning that the Panthers seem to have developed.

With the defensive line returning almost fully intact, and the offense keeping Pokrywa, Sullivan and running backs Terence Bradford '96, Darius Brawn '95, Mike Brass '95 and Brad Gottfred '97, the Panthers should make an impact in the NESCAC again in 1994.

Women's hockey opens season on the road

Val Stori

The women's hockey team took to the ice on Nov. 1 in preparation for their season opener this Saturday against Williams. Their first home game will be against UVM Dec. 7.

Bandersnatchers win football title

By Paul Krissoff

In a repeat of last year's thrilling intramural football final, the Bandersnatchers (a.k.a. Sig Ep) edged the Ripton Raiders by a touchdown, 27-19. It was a happy ending for the Bandersnatchers, a talented and experienced group of seniors who will graduate as the undisputed champions of Middlebury College. The Ripton Raiders, a team made up predominately of juniors, will have one more shot at the title with their nemesis out of the league next fall.

The road to the finals was an easy one for the Bandersnatchers. After a quarterfinal bye, they easily deposed of Team Barnes, a group of upstart sophomores who lacked playoff experience and a defense. The Bandersnatchers crushed them, 36-6, under the leadership of four year starter Gabe Dee '94.

The Ripton Raiders had a tougher time reaching the promised land. After a 42-6 rout of the Groundhogs in their quarterfinal game, things got a lot harder in the semifinals.

Their opponent was Daddy Jack and the Sacs, a senior squad led by the league's premier quarterback, Dick Cameron '94. Cameron got the Sacs on the board first with a dazzling punt return which he took all the way with ten minutes remaining in the first half.

Meanwhile, the Raiders offense sputtered and fizzled. Junior quarterback Chad Cooper was unable to connect with his favorite receiver, Joe Bradley '95, and the rest of the Raiders were unable to pick up the slack.

Ripton did play tremendous defense, however, allowing only the punt return touchdown on the day. Cameron was frustrated all game by the tenacious rush of lineman Jay Fritz '95, two interceptions by Paul Krissoff '95 and a couple of dropped passes by his normally sure-handed receivers.

Ripton's offense finally came to life in the second half. Cooper found George Elsener '94 in the end zone after a long drive to tie the score midway through the second half.

The road to the finals was an easy one for the Bandersnatchers. After a quarterfinal bye, they easily deposed of Team Barnes, a group of upstart sophomores who lacked playoff experience and a defense.

Then, with three minutes remaining, Cooper hit a diving Bradley for the go-ahead score. The Ripton defense stopped the Sacs on their final drive, setting up the long awaited Super Bowl re-match.

The Bandersnatchers drew first blood in the final as Dee found wide receiver Bo Wilmer '94 on their first possession. The Raiders countered on a bomb from Cooper to Trey Martin '95, only to see the Bandersnatchers take back the lead on their next possession on another long reception by Stu Campbell 'SP. Ripton had defensive problems all day, partly because two of their starters, Bradley who pulled his hamstring and Fritz for academic reasons, were unable to play.

Despite the key losses, Ripton was able to rally as it has all season. John Beveridge '95 made a critical interception, setting up a miraculous touchdown reception by Josh Stinchcomb '95. Trapped in his own endzone, Cooper scrambled and threw up a prayer that tipped off the hands of defender Adam Soroca '94 right to Stinchcomb, who jumped over Soroca and ran into the endzone fifty yards down field.

However, the never-say-die Bandersnatchers also rallied, this time behind the dominating play of Dee. After a long, well-orchestrated drive, he took advantage of a height mismatch and delivered a beautiful pass to Wilmer on the goal line.

Two plays later, he found Wilmer again to give the Bandersnatchers an insurmountable eight point lead with just a minute remaining in the game. Eric Bachman '94 sealed the victory with a leaping interception, sending the dejected Ripton squad home without a title for the second straight year.

Ripton's captain, Schuyler Coppedge '95, summed up the team's feelings saying, "our play was reminiscent of the Buffalo Bills. For the second straight season, we peaked in the conference championship and failed to show up for the Super Bowl. Unfortunately, the finals were marred by Bradley's injury and the egregious absence of Jay Fritz." So, while the Bandersnatchers celebrate, Coppedge, Bradley, Fritz and company must wait until next year.

Alex Grossman

Co-captain Whitney Williams '94 leads women's basketball in a scrimmage against Rensellaer.

Women's hoops shoots for NCAA

(continued from page 24)

According to Backus, the team's biggest weakness last year was their lack of height. The return of 6'1 senior Susan Dwyer from a year of study abroad and sophomore Eliza Zug, 6'0, alleviate this problem, giving the Panther squad four players over 5'11.

Junior Sarah Martin and sophomore Katie Hubert will anchor the backcourt for the Panthers. They will also look to team newcomer Kristin Manix '97, who "has been doing very well in preseason" and "is definitely going to see some playing time," said Backus.

The pre-season team goal for women's basketball is to be the first NESCAC basketball team to be chosen to compete in NCAA championships.

A change in NESCAC rules now provides NESCAC teams with this opportunity. The Panthers' fourth place finish in New England last year puts them in a good position to achieve this goal.

Western Connecticut, Clark and Emmanuel colleges, have consistently provided the Panthers with their toughest competition. They play Division II St. Michael's in the home opener on Tuesday, Nov. 23 in what will be "a nice test early on in the season," said Backus.

The Panthers will play in the season opening NESCAC Tip-off Tournament at Trinity this weekend, competing against Connecticut College on Saturday and Hamilton on Sunday.

the extra point

Zebras lack consistency

By Neall Currie

"Oh cool! Maybe they'll find some that haven't gone blind yet."

Such was the reaction of an avid hockey fan when told that beginning Monday, National Hockey League (NHL) games would be refereed by the zebra equivalent of scabs, while the league's full time referees go on strike for more money. That pretty much sums up the average fan's attitude toward the officials responsible for calling the game. The referee situation in the NHL is so bad that the blind mice are striking for more money. It seems that the officials are learning a lesson of greed from the players. In the NHL, they even learned proper technique; only a year and a half ago, the players went on strike just before the playoffs.

The NHL has a number of options. Among them is a manner of compromise: NHL games are currently monitored by one referee and two linesmen, a fairly recent change from the two-man system. The league could just eliminate all those second linemen and use the extra salary money to give raises to the officials left. They could conceivably improve the quality of refereeing by picking and choosing the ones to let go. The problem is that unions have a policy of spreading misery, sticking together until everyone involved has lost something.

But who are we kidding? Even though the NHL is less financially successful than the National Basketball Association (NBA), the National Football League (NFL) and Major League Baseball (MLB), I'm sure they could still afford to grant the referees a substantial pay increase. They could even take the money from other sources; for example, take one half of one percent of the game paycheck from every player who plays in the game, and draw the officials' salaries from that fund. Wherever the money comes from, it is important to have a full-time, competent officiating staff to call the games.

The NFL is the only major professional sports league that doesn't employ full time refs, and it shows in the inconsistency of rule interpretation and enforcement. When a league employs the officials full time, you can be assured that the men in stripes will have a thorough understanding of the rules they are there to enforce.

On the other hand, league-controlled refs may not be the best choices to fairly enforce the rules. In the NBA, for example, the rule enforcement is at best inconsistently consistent. No matter where he played, Michael Jordan got an extra step off his dribble and a little more room around him. The NBA has developed a habitual double standard of rules regarding its superstars. This wasn't so bad when it was just Magic Johnson and Michael Jordan who got to play by rulebook B, but with a number of young players like Larry Johnson, Shaquille O'Neal, Chris Webber, Tom Gugliotta and Harold Miner cutting their own swath across the league, you have to wonder where the double standard ends. We can only hope it was another thing that the NBA lost when Jordan retired.

MLB has their own problem with the difference between *de facto* and *de jure* playing rules; the perfect example is the ever-shrinking strike zone. The rule book says it goes knees to armpits, the width of the plate. Freeze frame photography shows that it's actually mid-thigh to belt. The overhead camera used in the playoffs this year showed that the umpires have also seen fit to actually extend the width of the strike zone to an imagined line somewhere about four inches off each edge of the plate. This is but one example; when was the last time you saw a pitcher commit a balk and get called for it? Might as well take the rule off the books. So maybe league-controlled refs aren't the perfect answer. Professional sports leagues are certainly prone to an overbearing manipulation of whatever they can get their hands on. They tend to tinker with things until they are broken, like with the change to a three referee system. The only alternative I can think of is government controlled refs. That's what you have in boxing. Gee, that would be a change for the better.

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Intramural football results, page 23

The Middlebury Campus
Sports

Even glasses won't help refs, page 23

Thursday, November 18, 1993

Daly leads cross country to first NCAA meet in 23 years

By Zachary Caldwell

The Middlebury cross country team was in the sea coast town of Dartmouth, Massachusetts last Saturday for the New England Regional Division III NCAA qualifying meet.

In a history making performance, the Middlebury women's team qualified for the NCAA Championships to be held this coming Saturday in Grinnel, Iowa.

When the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) was formed in 1970, member schools such as Middlebury were not allowed to send teams to the NCAA Championship. While individuals have qualified in the past, this is the first year that NESCAC has allowed teams to qualify for a national championship event.

The women's cross country team will be the first Middlebury team to attend a national championship in 23 years, having finished third behind Williams and Colby in a tight qualifying race with only three team spots available.

As she has for the past four years, senior Kristin Daly paced the Middlebury women in their superb team effort, finishing 10th with a personal best time of 18:12. Leslie St. Lawrence '96 had another outstanding race in what has been a truly outstanding rookie season, following Daly by six seconds in 13th place.

Casey Clifford '96 ran third for Middlebury in 30th place, followed by Sarah Rebick '97 in 34th place and Amy Hollingsworth '94 in 39th place to round out the scoring. Michele Anastasio '97 ran an inspired race with an injured back to finish 49th and Kate Kerschbaum '96 followed closely in 58th place.

All seven women finished within a minute and ten seconds of each other in a show of what has become trademark team depth.

While the results sheet is proof enough that this women's team is a truly national caliber team, the circumstances of Saturday's race make their accomplishment all the more notable. The course in Dartmouth, Massachusetts could be best described as traversing a pancake. With three scoring runners (Daly, Clifford and Hollingsworth) training hills quite regularly as members of the varsity Nordic ski team and the terrain around Middlebury resembling something closer to a Belgian Waffle than a pancake, the Middlebury runners are at a distinct disadvantage in what coach Terry Aldrich described as "a track race." As Hollingsworth said, "this course definitely didn't tap our team strength."

In addition, Anastasio, who has consistently run third for the team all year, was running with a back injury. According to Coach Aldrich, she ran for the first time in a week on Thursday, but even then it was with quite a bit of pain. In the end though, Anastasio chose to race. "Michele felt that she was ready to go, and she wanted to run," said Aldrich, who also noted that Casey Clifford had "a phenomenal race to pick up the slack with Michele injured."

While the women stole the show, the men's team also had an outstanding race to finish seventh in one of the toughest divisions in the country. Aldrich felt that the team

(continued on page 22)

Alex Grossman

Men's basketball team gets in shape for the upcoming season opener against St. Lawrence.

Men's hoops fields a young squad

By Rob Merrill

The Middlebury men's basketball team began practice on Nov. 1 with a host of new faces. 1993 graduates Pat Casey, Seth Heaton and David Salisbury made their final passes last season, but this year's edition has caught the bouncing leather on the run and promises to be young and exciting.

According to Coach Russ Reilly, the group has the talent to be a "very competitive Division III team." Preparation for the season has been difficult, with a few players not joining practice until the football season came to a close.

Although the team may have to play through an "acquaintance" stage, learning the abilities and quirks of teammates, the 23 game season runs until Feb. 22, giving them ample time to develop their potential.

Major contributions are expected from the team's captain and only senior, forward/guard Kevin McDonough, guard Jason Prenevost '95 and center Ari Kriegsman '96. Other key players include Jethro Ferguson '96, Jason Cussler '95, Bart Plank '96, Mark Sylvester '94 and newcomers Mike Roche '97 and Sam Sweeney '97.

Reilly feels the depth of the team should enhance their style of play. The Panthers will run selectively, abiding by Reilly's advice to "score early or score late." If the fast break is not available, they will set up and run a motion offense, in which they hope to "pass up good shots for great ones."

Defensively, the team will play man-to-man, employing full-court pressure as needed.

Sylvester, who plays guard, summarized the team's strategy in an equally eloquent manner: "We're going to go up the left side of the court; we're going to go up the right side of the court; we're going to go up the middle of the court, and we're not going to stop until we score, score, score!"

The young team will be tested right away, as they endure an early season five game road swing in which opponents include Division I schools Dartmouth and UVM. The season begins with a two game home stand this weekend. The Panthers will face St. Lawrence University on Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. and Clarkson University the following afternoon at 4 p.m.

Seniors step into Kovijanic's shoes

By Claire Martin

Opponents anticipate a setback for the Middlebury women's basketball team with the graduation of Sladja Kovijanic, last year's New England Player of the Year, the ECAC Player of the Year and First Team All-American. The 1993 New England Women's Basketball Association Coach of the Year, Middlebury's Amy Backus, disagrees.

What some may not realize is that the Panthers have three other players who can all easily put ten points on the board. "Obviously, it was a big loss," Backus said, "but fortunately we have 9 returning players. I have a lot of confidence that those players can put the ball in the basket."

This year's team will be forced to take the shots for which they previously might have relied on Kovijanic, making them a more balanced team.

Returning to the women's basketball team is co-captain Chris Pagano '94, who averaged 20 points per game and led the Panthers in rebounds. Pagano also finished fifth in the nation in free throws with an 84.1 percentage.

"We expect really big things from Chris this year. She's a strong player inside and outside," Backus said. "She didn't receive the recognition she deserved last year."

Other key returnees include co-captain guard Whitney Williams '94 whose 81.7 percent from the free throw line contributed to Middlebury's number four finish in the nation in that category.

(continued on page 23)

Football beats Tufts to secure winning record

By Neall Currie

"This game typified our season; we found a way to let ourselves back in."

This is how senior defensive captain Paul Casarico summed up the Middlebury Panthers final game of the 1993 season, a 14-12 win over the Tufts Jumbos that brought their record to 5-3.

The game was vintage Middlebury, combining both the good and the bad. Senior running back Matt Whitcomb had 109 yards, but the Panther offense lost four of their five fumbles. The defense held the Jumbo offense to just 10 points, but gave up a late fourth quarter drive. Typical of Middlebury, they found a way to let their opponents back in.

Tufts drew first blood against the Panthers, scoring on a 20 yard field goal in the first quarter. Middlebury did not answer until well into the second quarter, when the offense got going. Whitcomb's

Football	
Middlebury	14
Tufts	12

28 yard touchdown run put the Panthers ahead, and the extra point made the score 7-3.

Sophomore quarterback Scott Pokrywa engineered another scoring drive late in the third quarter and hit tight end Ryan Sullivan '95 for a seven yard completion in the endzone.

Tufts answered minutes later with a 26 yard touchdown pass that cut the Panther lead to 14-9. On the extra point attempt, the Jumbos surprisingly elected to kick rather than go for the two point conversion. The two points would have put them in position to tie up the game with a field goal. Instead, after the extra point, they still needed a touchdown to win.

The Panthers last possession was

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Squash season opens tomorrow

Alex Grossman

The women's squash team gears up for the season ahead, which includes home games against Smith, Dartmouth and Bowdoin.

The Middlebury Campus

Since 1905

Volume 92 Number 11 | Middlebury, Vermont | Friday, December 3, 1993

SGA passes social, academic bills

By R. Jon Baronowski

In this semester's penultimate meeting, the Student Government Association (SGA) passed two major pieces of legislation addressing issues that will affect both social and academic life on campus.

After passing the social house bill that had been discussed the week before, a resolution was passed asking the faculty not to accept the recommendation by the Educational Council to change the requirements for academic honors.

Currently semester and graduation honors are bestowed on students who attain a certain grade point average (GPA). The Educational Council has proposed that the basis for these honors change to a percentage system that would be "more stringent" and "put Middlebury's criteria more in line with other colleges."

The resolution offered by Trystan Phifer '95 asks the faculty to reject this plan for three reasons. First, the disparities among the grades given by different departments would make the percentage system unfair.

In addition, a percentage system could create a situation where "students are competing with each other rather than seeking to achieve personal excellence within an established set of standards." Finally, the resolution calls for more research and information before a final decision is made.

The resolution passed easily by a vote of 53 to two with two abstentions.

"Hopefully we're going to be put on the agenda of the faculty meeting so that we can present the resolution," said Phifer.

While the resolution only calls for a rejection of the current proposal, she noted that others have been working on a better solution.

Chip Earle '95 is presenting a bill to the SGA this week that would change the way that graduation honors are calculated. "It takes into consideration which major the graduating student has. People who graduate in majors with higher GPAs have an unfair advantage ... my hope is that it will distribute the honors over more divisions and more departments," said Earle.

"The resolution that the SGA approved doesn't offer a solution, it only asks the faculty to reject the current proposal ... [Earle's bill] could be part of a better solution," stated Phifer.

While the resolution passed in one meeting, the social house bill has persisted on the SGA agenda like a specter, appearing first in early October when it was tabled, only to reappear in mid-November. The bill, authored by Jake Citrin '94, Heather Dorf '94 and Sarah Kroon '96, required a campus-wide poll by SGA representatives.

Results of the poll showed strong support for the bill, including the controversial selectivity clause. This gives houses the ability to choose its members based on "demonstrated effort on the part of the student to meet the membership and to understand the broader principles upon which the house is founded" as well as the "demonstrated ability to provide unique, positive contributions to the future of the house."

The poll process itself was employed for the first time since its conception this fall and came under a great deal of criticism for its impracticality. Some representatives felt that seeking out and polling the required number of constituents was "unreasonable."

Maja Thaler

Sarah Kroon '96 and Jake Citrin '94 bask in the glory of victory after the passage of their social house bill last Sunday.

Accident claims life of sophomore

By Niamh O'Leary Liu

A tragic accident Sunday night claimed the life of one Middlebury College student and left another seriously injured. Deborah Edelstein '96 and Teresa Manzano '96 were on their way from Connecticut back to the campus after Thanksgiving recess when the accident occurred.

At approximately 7:30 p.m., the two were traveling in the northbound lane of Route 103 in Clarendon, VT, just south of Rutland, when, according to police, an oncoming car moved into their lane in an attempt to pass another southbound car, but collided with Edelstein's vehicle.

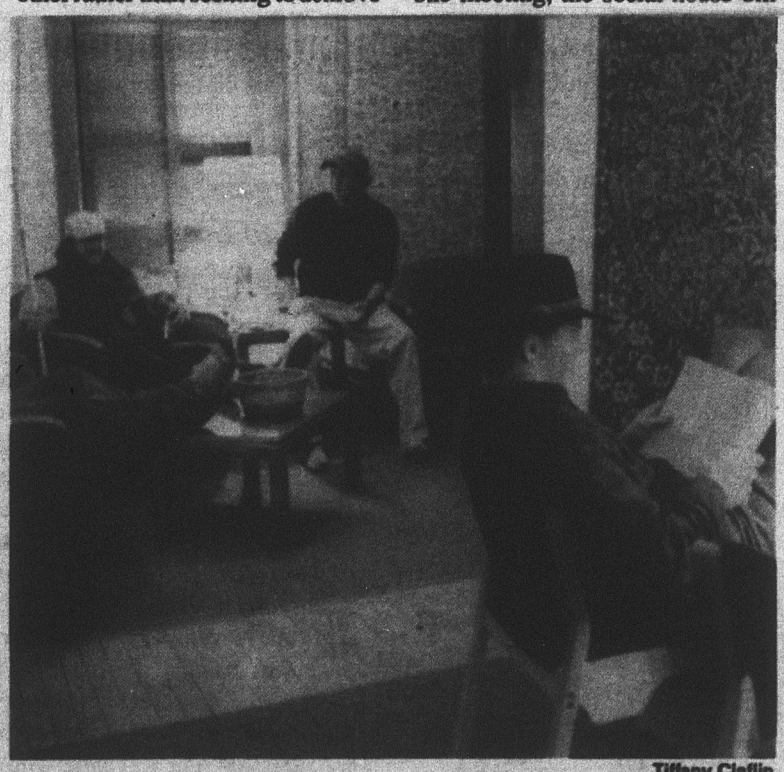
The oncoming vehicle was driven by Kurt Renner, 19, of Rutland. Riding with Renner were Colleen Dunne, 16, of Mount Holly and James Lee, 16, of Rutland. The three were taken to Rutland Regional hospital, along with Edelstein and Manzano, where Edelstein was pronounced dead on arrival. The three Vermont youths were listed in stable condition as of Monday night.

After emergency treatment, Manzano was received into the Intensive Care Unit. She underwent surgery and has since been moved to the orthopedics ward at the hospital. Vice President of Student Affairs John Emerson said that Manzano's injuries are not life threatening. "She had no injuries to her head or central nervous system; all the injuries are recoverable."

Emerson lauds the students, faculty and staff at the college for their tendency to "rally around people who face tragedy," calling the campus a "community that supports its members." President McCardell has issued a memo urging members of the college community to write or contact the Manzano and Edelstein families.

The college will hold a memorial service for Edelstein Monday afternoon at 4:15 in Mead Chapel, and intends to plant a tree in her memory.

Last Sunday night proved horrific for many travelers in the state as Erin Desaulnier, a student from St. Michael's College, was also killed on her way back to school. The accident occured on Route 89 and was weather related.



Tiffany Claflin

The Harris Farm House is one of many campus dwellings being considered as the location for a new social house.

New houses proposed

By Noelle Campagna

Members of the Community Council are preparing themselves for the next few weeks, when two groups will each be given time to meet with the council and discuss their proposals for new social houses. In the past three years the fraternity system has been converted and one social house has been shut down, putting a strain on the four remaining houses.

One of the proposals, submitted by Linda Murray '96 and Owen Brainerd '96, will come before the council the first Monday after Christmas Break. The following week, the council will meet with the second group, a prospective Alpha Delta Phi organization that has sought national affiliation. Both groups will be coed in agreement with the current regulations, and will be approved only with the understanding that they will be responsible for following all future regulations that are put into effect.

Members of the council discussed at length what types of issues will be considered in the approval process. One member was concerned with finding something unique that the new social groups

(continued on page 3)

Council clarifies role of student judicial process

By Will Clark

Clarifications of the College Honor Code and the student judicial process are part of a package of reforms approved last week by the Community Council. The College's current judicial organizations — the Student Judicial Council, a dean's board and the Judicial Review Board — will have their jurisdictions simplified and be joined by a fourth judicial body, the Appeals Council. Dean of Students Ann Craig Hanson said that the new changes will insure that "the three judicial bodies have standardized procedures." Professor Russell Leng, faculty adviser to the Judicial Council, felt that the reforms, if approved by the faculty, "will not mean any great change." Student Judicial Council Chairman Won Kim '94 feels that the proposed changes "really clarify the procedures ... in the past, there have been inconsistencies."

One procedure which remains inconsistent involves violations of College policy against off-campus single-sex organizations. According to the Handbook, accused parties normally have the option of requesting their cases be heard by the Dean of Students or the Student Judicial Council: "The Student Judicial Council has original jurisdiction in, and the responsibility to hear and determine, all cases ... involving violations of College rules or regulations or the Academic Honor Code, excepting plagiarism."

However, following a decision by the Community Council last year, the Dean of Students will have sole authority to hear cases involving membership in off-campus, single-sex organizations. Normally changes to the judicial procedure must be approved by the faculty, but Hanson characterized the issue as "a new responsibility for the Dean of Students" and therefore not subject to faculty approval.

Chairman Kim sees the matter differently, "It's the administration

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College Shorts

John Turner

Penn suspends speech code

Last January Eden Jacobowitz was charged with violating the University of Pennsylvania's acceptable speech code when he shouted "Shut up, you water buffalo" to a group of five black students outside of his window. The controversy surrounding the incident followed Penn's former president, Sheldon Hackney, to Capitol Hill during his confirmation hearings to become head of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The case sparked debate over the values of free speech and the need to foster a tolerant campus atmosphere. Jacobowitz, an Israeli-born first-year student, denied that his demeaning phrase was racist in nature. He maintained that it was a translation for the Hebrew word meaning "fool" or "dummy." The charges were dropped several months after the incident.

Last week, the interim president at Penn, Claire Fagin, rescinded the college speech policy. "Community standards of conduct" and "informal conflict resolution" will now preside over disputes. Fagin received both criticism and support for the policy shift. Some perceived scrapping the code as inviting incorrect and intolerant behavior. Fagin responded, "If everybody thinks you're doing something slightly off in a highly emotional situation like this, then maybe you're doing something exactly right. In any case, it can't be worse."

Other universities have also found that adopting speech codes has brought controversy and, at times, court battles.

Codes at public schools, including the University of Michigan and the University of Wisconsin, have been found in court to violate the First Amendment. At other schools, speech codes remain on the books but are not enforced.

Italian Americans gain affirmative action status

The City University of New York (CUNY) has added Italian Americans to its list of groups to which it accords affirmative action. This has sparked a controversy which has led to a lawsuit and federal complaint accusing CUNY of discriminating against Italian Americans, and a questioning of university motives in formulating its affirmative action policy.

Italian Americans, who constitute one of the largest ethnic groups in the city, have accused the university of bias in hiring and promotions for more than twenty years. CUNY has collected data on the dispute since 1976, and has maintained that results show no discrimination. According to university statistics, Italian Americans represent 4.4 percent of the available pool for faculty positions, and actually hold 5 percent of the positions on campus. A group of influential Italian American legislators and a group known as the Italian American Legal Defense and Higher Education Fund disputes the university statistics, concluding that Italian Americans actually represent 11 percent of the available faculty recruitment pool.

Many observers feel that the pressure from the Italian American community led CUNY to put Italian Americans on its affirmative action list, and feel that this makes "a mockery of affirmative action." "Almost everybody wonders why they are on this list," says Bernard Saohuner, a professor of mathematics at CUNY's City College. "It's a diminution of who should actually be protected.

"Italian Americans are not perceived as a group that needs assistance," says Maria Grace LaRusso, a counselor at CUNY's John D. Calandra Italian American Institute. However, she says, many people hold negative stereotypes of Italian Americans, considering them unintellectual and "affiliated with organized crime and thuggery."

White professor under fire

Christie Farnham Pope, a white professor of African American history at Iowa State University (ISU) has been the target of protests this fall. Black students have called her racist and demonstrators have staged sit-ins in her classroom. The protests have highlighted the controversy of white professors teaching ethnic studies which emerged in campus protests more than two decades ago.

Students at ISU assert that the issue is not Pope's race, but rather her teachings and teaching methods. They allege that she dismisses Afrocentric theories, does not include the history of slave uprisings and does not explore post-Reconstruction African American history.

Emotions were heated during Pope's class this fall, and erupted between herself and student DeAngelo Moore, who calls himself DeAngelo X.

Pope says that on the first day of classes Moore asked, "Why is a white woman teaching this?" Pope alleges that he repeatedly interrupted her class, called her a racist, and held up a newspaper with the words "Black Power" written on it.

Moore took offense at Pope's condemnation of his religion, the Nation of Islam, calling it "radical" Afrocentrism. Approximately fifty students out of one hundred left Pope's class during the first half of the semester.

Sources: The Chronicle of Higher Education, The New York Times, The Vermonter

Global to Local

By Robert Schlesinger

British Government acknowledges link to I.R.A.

In a huge blow to the public credibility of Prime Minister John Major's government, it acknowledged that it had engaged in secret contacts with the Irish Republican Army (IRA).

Members of the government were scheduled to appear in front of the parliament on Monday, promising to divulge all of the details of the communications with this organization.

The IRA is a guerrilla group which has waged a violent campaign in both London and Northern Ireland to end English rule in that area. The controversy dates back to religious division between mainly Catholic Ireland, and Protestant England. The conflict has been raging for 25 years, and has claimed more than 3,000 lives.

The British government, maintaining that it was keeping with its stated policy of not dealing with the IRA, denied the existence of such communications for weeks, and only confessed when faced with the possibility of hard evidence being presented to the contrary. The exposure of this link shows that the British Government and the Catholic IRA are finally dealing with each other, but the third group in question, the Irish Protestants, are conspicuously out of the loop.

This scenario is the worst nightmare for those favoring maintenance of British rule in North Ireland, bringing fears that the government will strike a bargain with the IRA and leave.

The British Government has sworn that it will not make a deal that is not satisfactory to the entire population of Northern Ireland, which has approximately 950,000 Protestants and 650,000 Catholics. The British have incentive to leave, however. Keeping the more than 17,000 troops in Northern Ireland is a $3 billion per year expense. The constant threat of bombing in London has also taken a psychological toll.

Clinton initiates welfare reform

Fresh from his stunning NAFTA victory and busy preparing for the battle over health reform, President Clinton has decided to begin reform of the welfare system.

A 32-member working group of federal officials appointed by Clinton is presently studying various options for reform.

Among the options being studied are federal subsidies to companies that hire welfare recipients or find jobs for them. The former option would involve giving corporations up to $5,000 for each welfare recipient they hire. The latter would have the government pay placement companies a fee for every person that they find a job for whom. Clinton's appointed team believes that the program would build crucial "bridges to the private sector." Public sector jobs, which are costly and politically unpopular, are considered "only as a last resort."

Subsidies have been tried in various forms since Lyndon Johnson's Great Society programs. Three potential problems with this sort of program have been identified. First, such programs could "stigmatize" welfare recipients and "hurt their long-term employment prospects." Secondly, many fear that this would simply be a windfall for employers hiring people that they were going to hire in the first place. Finally, the program "could simply result in the displacement of equally disadvantaged persons."

Brady bill signed into law

The Brady handgun-control bill, first introduced in Congress in 1987, was signed into law on Tuesday by President Clinton.

Clinton saw the passage of the bill as an acknowledgement by the American people that gun control is sorely needed. He called the right to bear arms "an instrument of maintaining madness."

James S. Brady, for whom the bill is named, sat next to the president as he signed the bill. Brady, the White House press secretary under President Ronald Reagan, was wounded in an assassination attempt on the president.

"How sweet it is; how long it took," said Brady.

The piece of legislation requires the buyer of a handgun to wait five business days before taking possession of it. The waiting period will allow states to conduct background checks for criminal history or mental instability.

Clinton and supporters of the bill faced a great deal of opposition from Republicans and special interest groups.

The president supported the bill, saying that he was not trying to change the lifestyle of individuals who value firearms for recreational purposes. Clinton stated that the American people should not "let people ever again in this country use a legitimate part of our American heritage in ways that blind us to our obligation to the present and the future."

Brady offered a much more emotional stance on the issue. "One day twelve years ago my life was changed forever by a disturbed young man with a gun. Until that time, I hadn't thought much about gun control or the need for gun control. Maybe if I had I wouldn't be stuck with these damned wheels."

Selectmen move to improve Handicap Parking

Middlebury selectmen have approved parking changes in the downtown area which will improve handicapped access, and could expand the number of regular parking spaces.

Under the plan, handicapped parking spaces will be put in front of the post office, Skihaus, Park Drug, the Ilsley Library and the Sheldon Museum. With the creation of these new spaces, the existing handicapped parking spaces on the park side of Merchant's Row and Main Street will become regular parking areas, and may be changed from parallel to perpendicular parking, potentially creating seven new spaces.

"Quite a lot of people who shop downtown have handicapped plates. For the benefit of downtown ... something's needed." said Town Planner Fred Dunnington.

James Ross, an Americans With Disabilities Act consultant, plans to use the example of Middlebury in talks on the subject of distribution of handicapped spaces in other towns.

The changes will not take place until the spring time, however, because the line painting can only be done when the temperature reaches 50 degrees.

Organization pays to keep rural environment

The Vermont Land Trust pays landowners to give up the right to develop their land in an effort to preserve the farmland, forest and recreational areas in the state. In existence since 1977, the trust has protected 54,500 acres in the state of Vermont, including 4240 in Addisdon County alone.

In late November a press conference was held at the home of a family who recently signed away the development rights to their farm for $250,000. The Kayharts, with a 55 acre farm in Shoreham, allowed 463 acres to stay undeveloped in perpetuity.

A press conference held at their home and in support of the Vermont Land Trust's efforts included Vermont Governor Howard Dean and Agriculture Commissioner George Dunsmore.

David Kayhart said of his family farm, "Having grown up in New Jersey, you just appreciate land like this so much. My father always wanted it to stay as farmland. It's great to know that it will always be there."

Sources: The New York Times, The Addison Independent

Teach-In helps to educate

By Liz Leyden

A group of faculty, staff and students traveled to DeWitt Clinton High School in New York City on Nov. 15 as part of the Partnership in Education Program between that school and Middlebury College. Established in 1988, the program seeks to benefit the inner city high school and the college community through a rural-urban interaction not available otherwise.

On the recent "Teach-In Day," Middlebury professors entered the classrooms to teach subjects ranging from journalism to film. Director of Admissions Geoffrey Smith describes the impetus behind the event as "partly to expose high school teachers to a fresh approach; to bring a level of enthusiasm in that day to day city teachers may not get to experience."

Participants from Middlebury also benefit from this shared teaching and exposure to the different environment. Ron Nief, Director of Public Affairs, who worked with an English/Journalism class, described the experience as extremely positive. He emphasizes that the participating faculty benefit most from the interaction. "I went in six years ago expecting the worst ... instead I found the school ROTC in full uniform lining the halls to welcome us ... the students' pride in the school is overwhelming, [as is] their interest in learning respect for teachers. It's just an amazing experience for faculty who have never experienced [inner city schools.]"

Representatives of admissions and financial aid also ran seminars dealing with opportunities in higher education and financial support. Smith emphasized that this was not a recruiting program, but rather designed to "provide support for an inner city high school where not a lot comes from outside."

Besides "Teach-In Day," other efforts within the partnership include exposing Middlebury students, faculty and staff to the urban high school, specifically with the Winter term student internships at DeWitt Clinton. Leroy Nesbitt, special assistant to the president, oversees the partnership between urban and rural schools and encourages the involvement of more faculty.

One participant on Nov. 15 was Kathy Lindsey, an admissions officer. "It's always rejuvenating for all of us to get into a classroom where you might make a difference. Inner city classrooms are different than most of us have experienced. It's stimulating, gets you thinking in a different realm and thinking about the challenges that other schools face."

The importance of such a program for the college and high school are summarized by Nief in terms of the partnership. "It's balanced. Our faculty can experience kids trying very hard in a difficult situation for academic achievement. New ideas in teaching are exchanged, always with enthusiasm."

	STUDENT JUDICIAL COUNCIL	DEANS' HEARING	JUDICIAL REVIEW BOARD	APPEALS BOARD
Composition of body	Composed of eight students selected each spring by one faculty and two student members of the Community Council in consultation with three members of the SJC.	Composed of three deans, including the Dean of Students, each having one vote.	Chaired by Dean of the College, with two faculty members and two student members of the Community Council.	Chaired by Vice President for Academic Affairs with the chair and vice chair of the SJC, and two faculty members approved by the Faculty Council
Jurisdiction	The SJC can hear all cases involving violations of College rules or regulations or the Honor Code except plagiarism and membership in off-campus, single-sex organizations.	A Deans' Hearing can be requested by any charged party although the Dean of Students may decline the jurisdiction.	The JRB has original jurisdiction over all cases of plagiarism. The board may also hear appeals from decisions of the Deans or SJC.	Decisions of the JRB regarding plagiarism are appealed to the Appeals Board. All decisions of the Appeals Board are final.

Council clarifies role of student judicial process

(continued from page 1)

basically saying, 'We don't trust student organizations to handle this issue.' It's not just that the administration went over the faculty's head ... but they totally ignored them." Kim feels the Judicial Council should have jurisdiction because "it is a judicial matter."

Leng said the actions of the Community Council set a bad precedent by "establishing types of offenses which cannot be heard by the Student Judicial Council."

The Appeals Board will hear appeals of students found guilty of plagiarism. The new panel will include the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the chair and vice chair of the Student Judicial Council, and two faculty members selected by the Vice President from a list approved by the Faculty Council.

The Community Council also approved changes in the method by which members of the Judicial Council will be selected. Currently, at least two members of the Council must have previous experience on the Student Judicial Council. The new guidelines require three members of the council to have previous experience. Kim said the council wanted to have "full tenure for students throughout their college career. If you are a member your sophomore year [first-year students are not permitted to serve on any judicial council] you will be a member your senior year. Most colleges do it that way. [Full tenure] may change the council a little, I think it would make it work a lot smoother." Leng was less adamant about the change, saying, "There are two sides to that type of issue ... It means if someone is not serving well, it's hard to get rid of them."

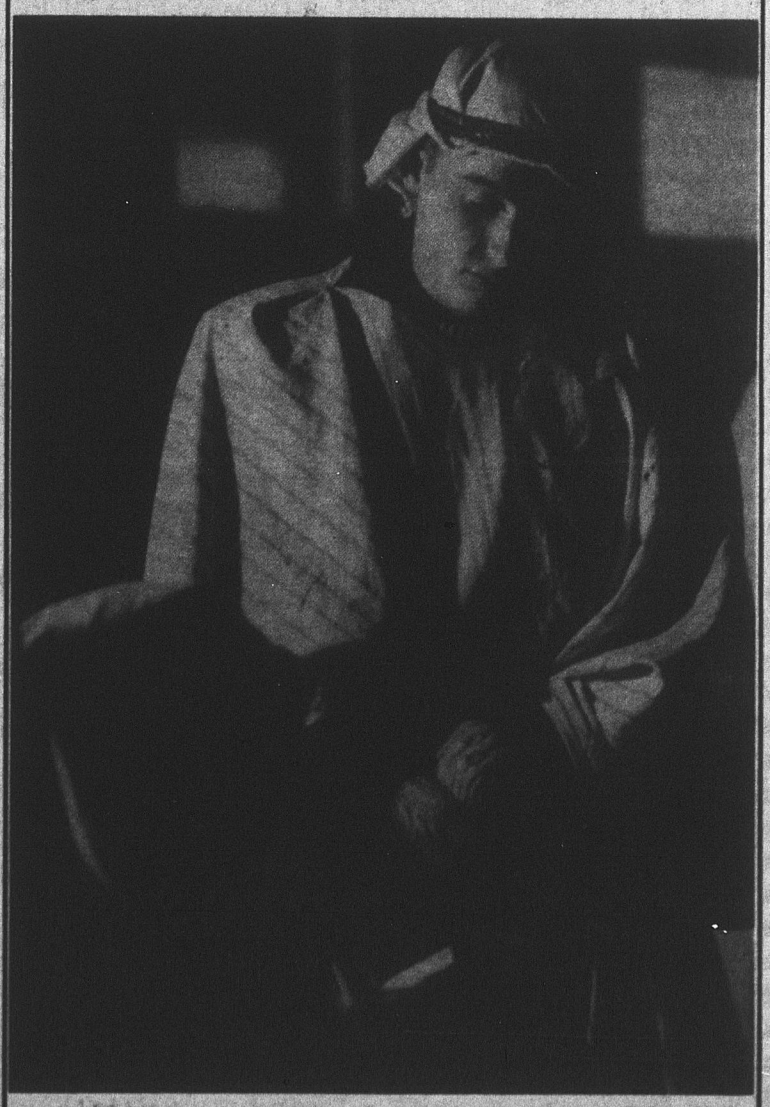
Students could face new sanctions if found guilty of non-academic offenses by any of the judicial boards. According to the proposal, "penalties for violations of conduct regulations are recorded in the student's file in the Dean of Students Office. Penalties are not reflected on the academic transcript except that dates of enrollment at Middlebury College are a part of the transcript record."

Warnings are an informal discipline which remain in a student's file until graduation. They can be taken into account in future judicial penalties and may make future violations more serious. A new level of sanctions, reprimands, are similar to warnings with the added punishment that parents or guardians will be informed of the reprimand. Disciplinary probation, which can lead for the rest of a student's career, remains a permanent entry on a student's record.

Students found guilty by either the Dean of Students or the Student Judicial Council have the right of appeal to the Vice President of Academic Affairs only if new factual material is found, in the case of procedural error, or mitigating circumstances were not fully considered by the body with original jurisdiction. The Vice President will decide on the issue in consultation with a faculty and student member of the Community Council. Appealed cases will now be heard by the Judicial Review Board. Previously they had been referred back to the original judicial body.

The proposed changes to the judicial system must be approved by the faculty before they can be implemented.

Christmas hits Proctor



Tiffany Claflin

The first snowfall after Thanksgiving break brought out spirit and good cheer, even outside the dining halls.

New houses proposed

(continued from page 1)

would bring to Middlebury.

The guidelines that the Brainerd/Murray proposal have established ensure that all students will have the opportunity to participate, according to Mimi Mathers '96, a member of the group. Bidding will not be part of this new house if it is approved. Discussion with first-year students who might be interested in joining has begun, as the group is intending to ensure perpetuation beyond 1996.

"Many students would like to get involved with the social house system, but aren't satisfied with the available options" said Mathers, a problem that the new house hopes to alleviate.

The Alpha Delta Phi proposal differs in several respects. Sophomore Amy Schwenker felt that there was a very important element in the Alpha Delta Phi proposal that separated them from the current social houses on campus. Alpha Delta Phi would be concentrating on contributing to the community, but the community at the center of their concerns would be the campus community. "We've spoken to Yonna McShane and have talked about how we can add to the college community." stated Schwenker.

The affiliation with the national Alpha Delta Phi organization was important to the proposal itself. "No one here has started a social house from scratch and we didn't really know what to do. Their guidelines were also very similar to Middlebury's own guidelines," said Schwenker.

Both groups felt that they had done a great deal to make these proposals solid. A decision will not be reached by the Community Council until both groups have been met with and they have had ample time to discuss all angles of the proposal.

John Emerson, vice president for student affairs and co-chair of the council, was positive about the proposals. "The proposals are strong proposals and well thought out. We'll see what happens."

The news section is looking for capable writers, and assistants for next semester. If you are interested call Jon x3595.

Hey! This is your last chance!
Campus positions, J-Term and spring semester 1994

The following positions with The Middlebury Campus are open for the upcoming semesters. Newly elected staff members will be trained before the fall exam schedule and during winter term. The new staff will be chosen by the current editorial board. If you have any questions, contact Kitty Loos at ext. 6202.

Today is the last day to turn in applications! Interviews will be scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 11.

Advertising Manager: Solicit and layout ads. Must be outgoing, motivated and organized. Knowledge of PageMaker a bonus. Must be comfortable with telephone skills and bookkeeping. **Paid Position.**

Features Editor: Responsible for the creation and assignment of novel, interesting and pertinent story ideas. If you do not consider yourself quite adept at squeezing creativity out of what will become the barren desert of your mind, this position is not for you. Simultaneously, this position offers an exciting level of freedom, which allows the editor to shape the section as opposed to the section shaping the editor. Must oversee layout of section.

Arts Editor: Main responsibility is creating and assigning articles for the section each week. Insider knowledge of the Middlebury arts community is helpful, as is a willingness to pursue off-campus story ideas. Must oversee layout of section.

In Depth Editor: Must be able to come up with innovative and multi-dimensional topics to examine each week. A good sense of student interests and a creative eye are beneficial. Responsible for assigning and editing all stories and overseeing the layout of the section.

Sports Editor: Assigns and edits all sports stories. Should be familiar with members and coaches of Middlebury athletic teams and in touch with non-varsity activities. Must oversee layout of section.

Opinions Editor: Responsible for soliciting and editing opinions pieces, letters to the editor and editorial cartoons. Must have a keen interest in campus life and sharp eye for controversy. Having a fancy for bickering and bad puns also helps. Must oversee layout of section.

Photo Editor: Responsible for assigning and taking photos. Must have good technical skills and be able to focus a camera. Dependability is a necessity.

Copy Editor: Responsible for the elimination of all spelling, punctuation and typographical errors. Some late nights required. Above-average spelling and grammar skills a must. Knowledge of PageMaker program a plus but not a requirement. You will be part of a team of copy editors, so flexibility and an ability to work well with others (and an adequate supply of No-Doz) would be advantageous. **Paid Position.**

Positions as assistant section editors and production assistants are available and will be chosen from the applicant pool.

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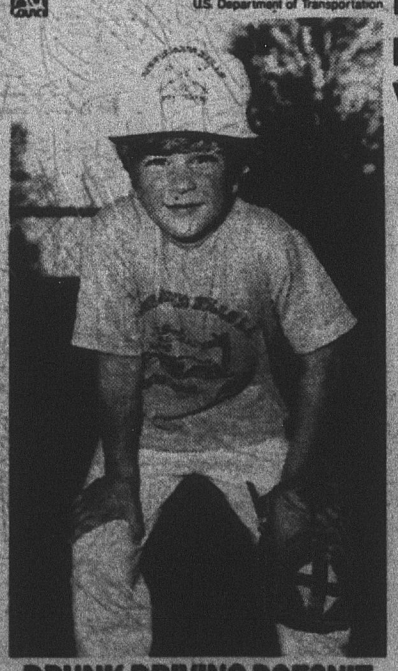

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Nicholas Esposito, killed Oct. 13, 1989 at 8:25pm.

Next time your friend insists on driving drunk, do whatever it takes to stop him. Because if he kills innocent people, how will you live with yourself?

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AMIGOS

Honors proposal restores prestige of awards

I write to explain the rationale behind the Educational Council's proposals concerning semester and college graduation honors. As a result of many years of gradual grade inflation, it was felt by many that the awarding of college graduation honors and semester honors (each based solely on GPAs) had become too commonplace. During the summer the Ad Hoc Committee on Dean's List and Honors, chaired by John Emerson, gathered information and discussed these issues in great detail.

Since the faculty had instituted stiffer GPA requirements for semester honors as recently as 1987, simply increasing the GPA cutoffs once again seemed inappropriate and, in the long term, ineffective. In addition, it seemed inappropriate to acquiesce once again to grade inflation or to allow it to be the driving force behind current and future honors revisions.

The new proposals created by the committee call for 5 percent of students to graduate *Summa Cum Laude*, an additional 10 percent *Magna Cum Laude* and an additional 20 percent *Cum Laude* (subject to certain minimum GPA cutoffs). Semester distinctions would be made as follows: College Scholar would be awarded to the top 10 percent and Dean's List to the next 25 percent (with no grades below B-).

The calculations would still be based on course grades (i.e. GPA), but not on an arbitrarily fixed GPA inflexible to changing grade patterns. The educational council, of which I am the chair, approved this proposal which will next be sent for ratification to the December faculty meeting.

I feel that the proposal is a substantial improvement over the current rules where the distinctions of college scholar and, in particular, graduating *cum laude*, have become greatly diluted. Having a fixed percentage of students receive honors will give consistency and credibility to those honors.

Interestingly, the percentage cutoffs were chosen so as not to have a major effect on the number of Dean's List recipients nor to adversely affect the awarding of Summa Cum Laude or Magna Cum Laude. Awarding honors to the top percentage of students rather than those that surpass a certain GPA hurdle is analogous to the Olympics where the top three finishers receive medals rather than giving medals to all competitors who surpass a certain time or distance barrier. Over time, the 25-foot long jump and the 4-minute mile have become commonplace.

There has been much discussion and concern over the disparity of departmental and divisional grade averages. I share those concerns and feel the faculty needs to discuss these issues openly and come closer to a consensus on the meaning of our grades.

Some departments and divisions award substantially higher grades than other departments and divisions. It should be noted that neither the current policy nor the newly proposed one directly addresses this issue.

At the present time, there is undeniable evidence that, on average, some departments and divisions award substantially higher grades than other departments and divisions. It should be noted that neither the current policy nor the newly proposed one directly addresses this issue.

Originally, as a member of the ad hoc committee, I had proposed we calculate college graduation honors by division so as to eliminate comparisons between divisions. I no longer support my original inclination, however, for the following reasons:

1) Although Biology, Mathematics and Computer Science, say, may seem to give lower grades than other departments, the lower grades tend to be in the introductory courses taken by non-majors. In the upper level courses, there is much less of a disparity among departments.

2) The average cumulative GPA of Mathematics majors, to take an example, is not the same as the average grade given out by the mathematics faculty. In fact, the percentage of mathematics students who have graduated either *magna cum laude* or *summa cum laude* is far above the departmental average.

Another example: although the average GPA given by the arts division in spring 1993 was 3.25 as compared to 2.94 for the natural science division, the top 5 percent of natural science graduates in 1993 had GPAs above 3.86 as compared to only 3.74 for arts division graduates,

3) Students take courses in many divisions and departments. In fact, a majority of student's courses are outside his or her major.

4) There is a great variety of grade averages given by faculty within many departments

5) Many students have joint or interdisciplinary majors which do not fit neatly in any of the six college divisions.

6) The problem of grade inequities should not be redressed at graduation time when the college comes together to celebrate and bestow diplomas on all graduates.

7) Departmental honors are also given at graduation and are the best measure of how students compare with others in their major.

The proposal being brought to the faculty is not a "quick fix" nor some sort of "shock therapy," as reported in *The Campus* editorial of Nov. 18; nor will the new guidelines cause undesirable academic competition.

First, academic competition which results in striving for individual excellence is not undesirable. Second, I do not believe that beating someone else at graduation honors is a motivating factor when studying for a test or writing a term paper. Third, the current system is much more apt to lead to the uncommon but unpleasant "grade grubbing" than the proposed system.

Under the new system, for example, a student no longer will have reason to demand a B+ rather than a B in order to make Dean's list. Finally, the current system is more likely to lead to the equally uncommon but undesirable grade complacency once a student has worked enough to earn Dean's list but chooses not to try to earn a better grade.

In summary, I hope that students and faculty endorse the new proposal as being a more prudent and meaningful measure of meritorious academic accomplishment.

Peter Schumer
Associate Professor
Mathematics & Computer Science Dept.

Hunger awareness week offered false guilt and false solutions

The week before break, I ate at Hamlin for lunch and was consequently assaulted by the flyers about hunger awareness week. I am sorry to inform whoever put them there, but I do not throw away "platefuls of food that I think I might eat," as the flyers reprimand me for. The only time I throw away a complete portion of food is when I venture to try something that looks good at the lunch line but which, when I get to the table, I find out is actually pseudo-food.

Even if I were to discard a half a piece of bread, it would not change things in Somalia, Appalachia, or East Middlebury. If everyone saved an extra "cup of rice," it would not benefit the starving people anyway; farmers, who just barely make it, are in a crisis of overproduction in this country. If we, the consumers, did not buy as much as we do, they would protest and go into financial ruin. They already create a huge surplus, which the government has to buy to help them keep their prices high.

The government then distributes this surplus for free to people in need. Were it not for our current level of consumption, farmers would go broke and not be able to produce this surplus for governmental distribution.

Word was spread during Awareness Week that, along with donating money from their dining hall meals, conscientious students should consider fasting during the period of said meals. As far as that goes, I signed up to donate my lunch money to Oxfam on Thursday, but just because I donated money does not mean that I, therefore, needed to skip eating; I went to the Crest Room for lunch and Oxfam got their money, no problem.

My skipping a meal is not going to change a solitary thing; it will at most give me heartburn and make me unproductive (and if I am unproductive, how can I work to stop hunger?). No starving person is going to give a hoot whether I can "commiserate" with him. They need food or money to buy it, not coerced, false sympathy. Besides, I do not have to be hungry to commiserate with someone who is, my brain is a little more equipped than that.

The "go hungry to show your support" idea is a glorified guilt trip, enforced with peer pressure, which I will not accept.

The "go hungry to show your support" idea is a glorified guilt trip, enforced with peer pressure, which I will not accept. I do not behave as nonchalantly as these flyers seem to think and have no reason to feel guilty. And not only is their proposition invalid, it is also ineffective.

Admittedly, the first step to solving a problem is to acknowledge it, but tell me of one person who has honestly not heard that there is hunger in the world. I do not know of anyone who has not been exposed to the problem before.

The group sponsoring the awareness week should have realized this, and, rather than posting random statistics from an unnamed source, should have been more concerned with instructing students as to what they can do to help alleviate hunger.

Things I have done and can suggest to others include writing to a congressperson, donating food to a community food pantry, volunteering to raise money, and working for groups like Heifer Project International; I did not see one suggestion on these flyers about how people can make a real difference, should they choose to do so.

To the group, I would just like to say, do not tell people how they should feel; that is outside your jurisdiction. It is their prerogative to be moved as their emotions dictate.

If you would like to better your cause and be seen as credible, shocking people is not the way to go. I believe people on this campus are intelligent enough to see the gravity of a situation when it is presented in a reasonable way. Hunger is a serious, widespread issue that people are indeed aware of, so show them how they can help.

Niamh O'Leary Liu '96

The Grey Rider

Todd Molz

The Educational Council unanimously proposed recently that the honors requirements, both for graduation and for College Scholar and Dean's List, be revised. Under the current system, you receive Dean's List if your GPA is above 3.1 and College Scholar if your GPA is above 3.5. For graduating honors you need a 3.1 for *cum laude*, a 3.5 for *magna cum laude*, and a 3.7 for *summa cum laude*.

The problem with this system is that about 65 percent of the graduating class last year received at least *cum laude*. The idea of honors is to recognize those few who had outstanding achievement. Needless to say, it kind of runs against the idea of honors to award over half the graduating class with such recognition.

To combat this, the Educational Council suggests that we change College Scholar to the top 10 percent of the class and Dean's List to the next 25 percent. For graduation honors, the top 5 percent of the class would receive *summa cum laude*, the next 10 percent *magna cum laude* and the next 20 percent *cum laude*.

While this would definitely take care of the immediate problem of too many people getting honors, I think that it would create other problems, and that it fails to address the real issues: grade disparities between departments and grade inflation.

A problem internal to the Educational Council's solution is that it would encourage unhealthy competition amongst the students. The focus would not be to get the best grades you can, but rather to make sure that you get better grades than anyone else.

Take the example of Joey and Jackie in Psychology 101. Under the present system, these two may share notes, work together to make sure that they understand the material as best they can so they can get the best grades possible. This is good.

With the Education Council's proposed system, Joey is not going to share his notes with Jackie, who may have missed a class. In fact, if Joey is particularly devious, he may make up some fake notes to fool Jackie so that she gets a bad grade. It is in his best interest that she do worse on the tests because he is judged relative to her. This is bad.

Of course, the main problem of the Education Councils' proposal is that it does not deal with the real flaws of the present system. This flaw is the wide disparity in the grading practice of the different departments. What this means is that the English department gives an average grade of a 3.6, and the Sociology department gives an average grade of a 2.9. (The names of the departments have been changed

(continued on page 21)

Editorial

Preserve judicial integrity

The Community Council passed several measures last week that will help the Student Judicial Council (SJC) both maintain membership continuity and keep jurisdiction over sensitive cases. However, while these measures will serve to strengthen the SJC, the council has already lost jurisdiction over a matter that has been of much concern in recent years: membership in off-campus fraternities.

Last spring, the Community Council voted to have the deans hear all cases involving violations of the off-campus fraternity policy, while normally students accused of violating college rules have the right to choose between the deans and the SJC. The decision causes concern for two reasons: 1) the implications it will have on the future of the SJC, and 2) the flawed process through which the decision was made.

The precedent it sets, taking jurisdiction to hear student cases away from the council, could lead to additional stripping of the authority and integrity of the SJC. More disturbing is the lack of faith the decision shows toward the SJC. This body, composed entirely of students, is responsible for hearing cases involving violations that range from cheating to hit-and-run accidents and has the power to suspend and expel students from the college. To take off-campus fraternity cases away from the SJC implies that the body cannot handle sensitive issues, which makes little sense since they already handle equally important matters. Furthermore, the SJC did hear a case involving off-campus fraternities last winter and meted out a fair punishment.

Although there has been no official explanation for taking jurisdiction from the SJC and the Community Council's minutes do not reveal the rationale for passing this measure, it has been suggested that members of the SJC might be influenced by intimidation from students supporting off-campus fraternities. The idea that council members would be susceptible to intimidation in the case of off-campus fraternities and immune when faced with other issues is senseless.

The Community Council, in addition to showing unjustified doubt in the SJC, did not go through proper channels or receive crucial input. The faculty advisor to the SJC at the time, English Professor David Littlefield, was not invited to participate in the Community Council's discussion, and neither was the student chair, Pat Casey '93. To exclude these representatives from a discussion that directly affected the SJC prevented a fair and full discussion of the issue.

The Community Council also bypassed the faculty. The Handbook states that the council may initiate changes of judicial procedure, but it goes on to say, "The Community Council will submit to the faculty for final action a proposal for any changes which the Community Council recommends. Final authority rests with the faculty."

The Community Council apparently viewed the decision as an addition to the off-campus fraternity policy and therefore saw themselves as the appropriate body to vote on the issue. However, as mentioned above, the SJC has already heard a case involving off-campus fraternities. In addition, the Handbook gives the SJC responsibility to hear all cases "involving violations of college rules or regulations." By taking jurisdiction over fraternities away from the SJC, the Community Council was clearly making a change to the judicial process. Therefore, according to the guidelines in the Handbook, the faculty should have considered this as a proposal from the Community Council and made the final decision. Yet, the faculty neither took up the issue nor voted on it, and once again crucial input was not obtained.

Both the reasoning behind the decision and the procedure by which it was made are flawed. Members of the SJC are encouraged to bring this issue to the Community Council and the faculty to ensure that the integrity and the importance of the SJC will not be diminished further.

The Middlebury Campus

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Tenure changes ignore root problem

The faculty is not discussing the most pressing issue surrounding tenure at Middlebury. In fact, the current debate over tenure rules began several years ago with a sense among many faculty members that it had become too easy to get tenure.

Our rules had been written years ago with two purposes — to assure that the very best teachers and scholars would advance to tenure, and to guarantee fairness to each candidate at each step of the process. Over time those rules had concatenated and ramified so that, although fairness remained, the road to tenure had become, in many eyes, too smooth.

What had been meant as necessary conditions had become sufficient for tenure. The minimum level of achievement *after which* the Committee on Reappointment would begin its difficult work of determining whether a candidate's accomplishment merited life time membership in the Middlebury faculty had become a kind of checklist which, if completed, guaranteed tenure. In the view of many, myself included, such a system will, in the long run, guarantee only mediocrity.

The difficulty of writing that paragraph and the anger it will certainly create emphasize our problem. Middlebury is too small, the faculty too compact, to allow the qualities of our faculty to be questioned in public. I believe we have an extraordinarily talented faculty, but I also believe we will not have one in ten or twenty years if we are unwilling to address openly its shortcomings.

The changes proposed are mostly healthy and overdo. The Committee has done its job well. The changes, however, tinker only with the periphery of our problem. They make no substantial change in the system. They do not expand the college's expectation of candidates.

Debate has centered on questions of service and confidentiality of letters. The arguments about service are, frankly, silly. Most untenured faculty at Middlebury do too much non-academic work, not too little. I have never seen a tenure case where service, as described in the proposed rules, would have affected the outcome. We are a small residential college. Of course, we expect involvement beyond the classroom and we get it because of the people we hire, not because of any rules we might or could write.

I believe we have an extraordinarily talented faculty, but I also believe we will not have one in ten or twenty years if we are unwilling to address openly its shortcomings.

The confidentiality question is more difficult. Advocates of confidentiality in faculty letters point to the difficulties of getting frank letters from senior faculty members who know their letters will be available to the candidates. Indeed, no one wants to write harsh words about a colleague if those words are to be read later. But we are adults and, if we care about the quality of our faculty, we must be able to do just that.

A faculty member with substantial doubts about a departmental colleague's suitability should have expressed those doubts long before a tenure review. He or she should be working to improve the department all the time — not just when a review demands a letter.

Admittedly a successful candidate who discovers negative comments in a colleague's recommendation may be hurt. Department collegiality (a dangerous refuge for many who are unwilling to face painful obligation) may suffer. To my mind, however, this is no choice. We must criticize honestly and accept criticism willingly. We at Middlebury talk a good game in this arena, but we do not act.

To permit greater confidentiality in letters only validates those who do not accept a tenured faculty member's obligations to his or her untenured colleagues. For their sake and the sake of college, we must supply them with regular and honest evaluation.

A tenure system, if it works, serves constantly to upgrade the faculty. If it does not, it is useless. Tenure is not so wonderful as it seems. It is, in fact, the academic world's substitute for financial success. We accept life-time employment at salaries far below those of anyone else with comparable education, talent and value to society. Tenure makes it impossible for most of us to bargain for pay or to sell our services to the highest bidder. We have anointed these losses with lofty rhetoric about the life of the mind and the joys of research, but often we cannot send our children to the colleges where we teach. The professor at the very pinnacle of his or her career often labors in genteel poverty.

Tenure is not a good deal. We are stuck with it, however, and Middlebury will not change that. But we can at least approach the debate honestly and try to create the best system possible.

Bruce B. Peterson
Professor
Mathematics & Computer Science Dept.

Educational Council's proposal is inadequate

The question of whether or not we should change the standards for honors is one that caught me somewhat by surprise. Before reading the article in the Nov. 18, 1993 issue of *The Campus,* I knew nothing about the standards for graduation honors. In fact, I would guess that few students were familiar with the requirements for *summa cum laude, magna cum laude,* and *cum laude.* Nonetheless it is now an issue, and as it seems with more and more issues, the sentiment is that we need to make a change, any change, regardless of whether it is the right change or not.

A certain danger lies in Old Chapel's constant pressure to change things, whether it be the distribution requirements, the social system or the standards for honors. The drive to alter the system threatens to encompass all that is Middlebury. The Middlebury that we know now may not be recognizable in twenty years.

This time, however, the Educational Council's proposal may have some merit. Reading that 63 percent of the graduating class last year received some type of honors made me wonder what they were honored for, other than graduating from Middlebury. This is not to say that that in itself is not an accomplishment.

By awarding honors to such a large percentage of the class, Middlebury faces the same problem that Ivy League schools, and Harvard in particular, now face. Nearly everyone at those schools receives only A's and B's. As a member of the Harvard medical school admissions board said in a private conversation, the situation has gotten to a point where graduate schools can not put much weight on the GPAs of graduates from those schools, for the simple reason that everyone's is high. No distinction can be made between the varying degrees of excellence.

The same will happen to the importance of the academic honors that Middlebury now bestows upon its graduates, if 63 percent of each class continues to receive these awards. The honor of graduating *magna cum laude* will lose its distinction if 30 percent of the class receives that award.

Indeed, it seems that something must be done. The current system obviously fails to appropriately recognize the very best members of the class.

The Educational Council's proposal also misses the mark. This plan would discriminate against the physics major with a GPA of 3.5, which puts her near the top of her class of physics peers, while the top students in other majors have GPAs of 3.8 or 3.9. That is, students in majors with lower mean GPAs would face a greater challenge in attaining the grade point necessary to put them in the top five or fifteen percent of the class.

I propose a combination of the Educational Council's and the Student Government Association's (SGA) proposals. To eliminate the bias of the Educational Council's proposal against the students of majors with lower mean GPAs, I suggest *summa cum laude* honors go to the top five percent in each major; *magna cum laude* would go to the next ten percent in each major; and the following twenty percent in every major would receive *cum laude* recognition.

Some people might complain that this would create undesirable competition between everyone struggling for the top five or fifteen percent. This complaint is unpersuasive for two reasons.

First, I doubt that many Middlebury students know or go out of their way to find out the requirements for each level of honors. Middlebury students choose to spend varying amounts of time on academics. Those who wish to spend more time involved in athletics, the SGA, the Mountain Club, theater or the social houses may be content with a B average, and concern themselves less with which grade they need to make the cut-off for *magna cum laude.* At the same time, other students, who spend most of their time on academics, will most likely focus on those standards for honors.

Students place varying degrees of importance on attaining high academic honors. In other words, a certain group of students, who choose such a condition for themselves, will compete for the honors, while others will opt not to engage in the competitive atmosphere, or may choose a different competitive atmosphere, such as athletic competition.

The important thing to keep in mind here is that these honors are indeed a reward; they should be something special. Those students who choose to devote more time to non-academic pursuits, while placing less importance on GPA, should not be punished for not receiving honors.

As it is now, the 37 percent of the student body that does not receive honors are, in essence, being dishonored as the small group of "unworthy students."

The second reason that an argument warning of excessive competition fails is that competition is not a bad thing. We must not forget that Middlebury accepts only 20 or 25 percent of its applicants, which inherently makes it a competitive place. In fact, the entire country thrives and excels on the drive to get ahead.

We never worry about too much competition in intercollegiate athletics at Middlebury, so how can we justifiably limit competition for some students, while we continue to allow those with athletic talents to benefit from such an atmosphere?

One item remains unresolved. What do we do with Dean's List and College Scholar awards? Many first-year students and sophomores do not have a major, so distributing these awards by standing in each major will not suffice. Distributing them based on percentages of the student body as a whole again puts students in particular majors at a disadvantage.

The other half of my proposal calls for these honors to continue to be awarded as they are now; i.e., all students with a GPA, for the semester, of 3.1 or greater, appears on the Dean's List; and those earning a 3.5 or better will be College Scholars. In this way, students continue to receive recognition for earning good grades, while the integrity of Middlebury's graduation honors remain intact.

For Middlebury to remain an institution of academic excellence it must maintain a superior level of teaching in those courses that provide a broad background in the traditional liberal arts. Middlebury must also demand excellence from its students. A system that honors the large majority of students gives little incentive for those students to distinguish themselves by striving for a more exclusive definition of excellence.

In this sense, a change in the honors system is needed to maintain the superior education equated with Middlebury. For this reason, I ask that the Student Government Association and the Educational Council resolve the debate in a manner that delivers a beneficial change, not just any change.

Luke Schaeffer '94

The Grey Rider corrals honors

(continued from page 5)

so as to protect the innocent.) Because of this dichotomy, a Sociology major is at a severe disadvantage relative to the English major.

The other problem that the Educational Council fails to address is grade inflation. Some people reading this are probably asking themselves right now, "Is this kid, a student, seriously complaining that some departments grade too *easily*?" Yes, I am; and no, I am not a science major.

Not only do some departments grade too easily, but they are getting laxer. The average GPA of the class of 1992 was 3.14. The next graduating class, 1993, had an average GPA of 3.19. At this rate of inflation, we can achieve an entire class graduating with a perfect 4.0 by the year 2010.

The problem with grade inflation is that it diminishes Middlebury and makes grades meaningless. Graduate schools begin to take good GPAs with a grain of salt. As it is impossible to tell which A is a fluff A, and which one is a deserved A, all A's are considered not quite real A's.

Grade inflation coupled with the disparity in department grading practices makes it increasingly difficult for graduate schools and others to evaluate students effectively.

So what we have here with the Educational Council's proposal is an idea which tries to avoid dealing with the real problems of disparate grading practices and grade inflation by applying a percentage based standard for ranking students that will foster unhealthy competition. This is bad.

One way to avoid this mess of apocalyptic proportions is for the faculty to deal with the flaws of the present system. I do not know how they are going to come up with solutions, but I do know that they must first recognize these problems and agree that they must be solved. The Educational Council's proposal goes to them in the next week or so; the ball is in their court.

Como Coco Bueno

April Paris

I grew up on the Southwest side of Chicago in a neighborhood called Beverly. My family moved there in 1973 from Baltimore, Maryland. Not long before that, Martin Luther King Jr. had called Chicago the nation's most segregated city. I was only one year old at the time, but I have heard the stories so many times it is as if I was there. Stories that are almost unreal but all too true.

The first year they poisoned my brother's dog. "They" broke windows, popped tires, gratified cars. "They" even chased my older brother home from school since he used to walk. That lasted until they caught him and broke his leg. I do remember the smell of stink bombs in the backyard and bullet holes in our store's window the police said were intended for my mother. We were persecuted, victimized and maybe even stupid, but we did not leave.

When my family moved to 101st Street in March 1973 we were the first non-white family to take residence in Beverly. About a month later another family moved in on 96th. That was it for a year or so then another family moved in on 102nd and one more on our street.

At the time, my father was a mid-level executive in a national company. We did not live in any kind of poverty. In fact, we came dangerously close to emulating the "American Dream". My father's new promotion paid for the new house. Yet something was always missing, or rather, was always too present.

"Mommy I want to go play outside with everyone."

"Why don't you call Susana and you two could play in the backyard?"

I used to call it a forest. Now it occurs to me that its real purpose was, to hide me from "them." With all the trees there no one could see me. I was safe.

Until the day my brother fell through a hole someone had cut in our trampoline and sprained his ankle. So my father built a fence and then we were safe.

Until I fell through a new hole they had cut. So my father put a lock on the fence and then we were safe, again. Until someone chased my sister and her two friends through our house and into the backyard yelling "whores". So my father bought a Doberman pincher, trained her as an attack dog. So then we were safe, again. And we were prisoners in our own home.

I remember those days clearly. It never really made sense to me. My parents had done everything right. Both college graduates, my father had established multiple prominent neighborhood businesses. His side hobby of investing in the stock market was building up a savings that would cover our college education.

When I looked around at school I could find no symbol of their failure. My father drove the same model Mercedes, and my mother the same model mini-van, as my classmate's parents did. The rationale escaped me. More than likely it was my own unrealistic childlike optimism that prevented me from understanding. Just the same it came to me one day at a high school tennis match.

My best friend, Tina, and I were sitting on the bleachers with the rest of the team joking around. It was the usual conversation: gossip about who was going with whom to the dance. We were still without

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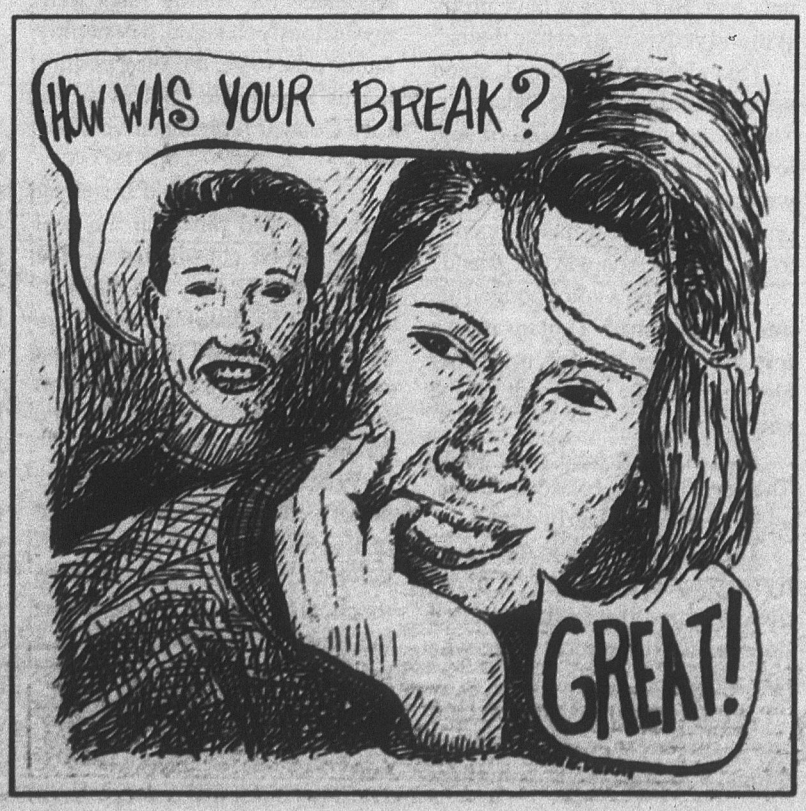


Bird dropped at Arts Center is a foul and curious creation

I had been hearing about it all week. "Have you seen THE BIRD?" "Oh my God, can you believe that BIRD?" "It's so ugly!" "Did we PAY for that BIRD?"

As I tried to go to sleep last Tuesday, I heard my neighbor, who spends a good deal of her time in the Arts Center, going on at great length about THE BIRD. "I have to look at it every day," she whined to a friend. Wrapping my pillow around my ears, I thought how melodramatic she was being. How bad could it possibly be? I personally think birds are inherently pretty cool looking creatures, and I was fairly confident that once I finally got around to meeting THE BIRD, I would like it.

When I headed down to the fitness center to take my token weekly stab at the wonderful world of muscles, I was not wearing my contacts, and my first impression of THE BIRD was a fuzzy one. "Hmm, that's ... round," I thought.

Then our new guest snapped into focus, and a grin spread across my face. As I got closer, I broke into a chuckle and finally a full-fledged belly-laugh. I wonder what the construction workers who were there thought of the college kid standing in the cold in front of a big, bronze BIRD, laughing his head off. My guess is they had seen it before—they did not look particularly surprised.

I stood there in front of THE BIRD and just marveled. It is called "Little Bird." I get it. It is not little — it is big and fat. Clever.

The thing is so incredibly ugly! It looks like a twisted mutation of Tweety Bird and the Stay-Puft Marshmallow Man from Ghostbusters. I can easily picture it sitting in front of a remote mid-western fried chicken stand — the kind of greasy dive with a vaguely obscene name like "Cluckin' Good Chicken," or something like that. Except there THE BIRD would be made of plastic, with a white body, red wings and a yellow beak and feet. Ours is made of bronze, which somehow only makes it more grotesque.

It looks like a twisted mutation of Tweety Bird and the Stay-Puft Marshmallow Man from Ghostbusters. I can easily picture it sitting in front of a remote mid-western fried chicken stand — the kind of greasy dive with a vaguely obscene name like "Cluckin' Good Chicken," or something like that.

As I continued to marvel, one of Middlebury's famous pigeons fluttered off the ground and landed on THE BIRD's head. It cocked its head and looked at me, looking at THE BIRD. "Do it," I thought to the pigeon.

Somebody made the decision to put that thing there. That thought occurred to me, and I laughed out loud again. Somebody here at the college, somebody with enough power to significantly alter the aesthetics of the most expensive building on campus, actually saw that BIRD somewhere and thought, "What a fabulous BIRD. I'll bet that would look great sitting in front of the Arts Center."

I do not even want to know who that person is, but I would wager he/she has orange and yellow tile with matching wallpaper and frilly curtains in his/her bathroom at home.

Still, I figured anyone with enough power to bring THE BIRD must have some kind of judgment. Maybe I was missing something. I decided to try it from different angles. I walked around behind THE BIRD, deftly dodging a bulldozer. The pigeon turned to watch me. It was even worse from behind. There is a ... well, THE BIRD is just too anatomically correct in the hindquarters for my liking. Nice touch.

I returned to the front of THE BIRD, and inspiration struck. Perhaps I would get a better view if I turned my back to THE BIRD, leaned back and laid my head between its tremendous legs, staring up at its bulk looming over me. Now this was an interesting angle. But suddenly I was overcome by the irrational fear that at any moment THE BIRD would lay a gigantic bronze egg right on my head. I stood up quickly.

That was it; I had tried every possible angle, and THE BIRD was still just as much of an eyesore as when I first glimpsed its blurry form. I had to conclude that the bringer of THE BIRD is either nuts, or was smoking some pretty strong stuff at the time. "What are you waiting for?" I thought, watching the pigeon.

Despite all of the criticism I have heard, THE BIRD does have its defenders on campus. I hear, "It's by a really famous artist." I hate that. Even a really famous artist is allowed an off day or two, just so long as he does not dump his mistakes in my front yard.

I hear, "Could *you* do it?" Nope. And I will admit that if I could be paid exorbitant sums of money to build gigantic chickens out of bronze, I would most certainly do it, and I would laugh behind the backs of those foolish enough to pay me. Trust me, somewhere right now there is a "really famous artist" laughing his ass off.

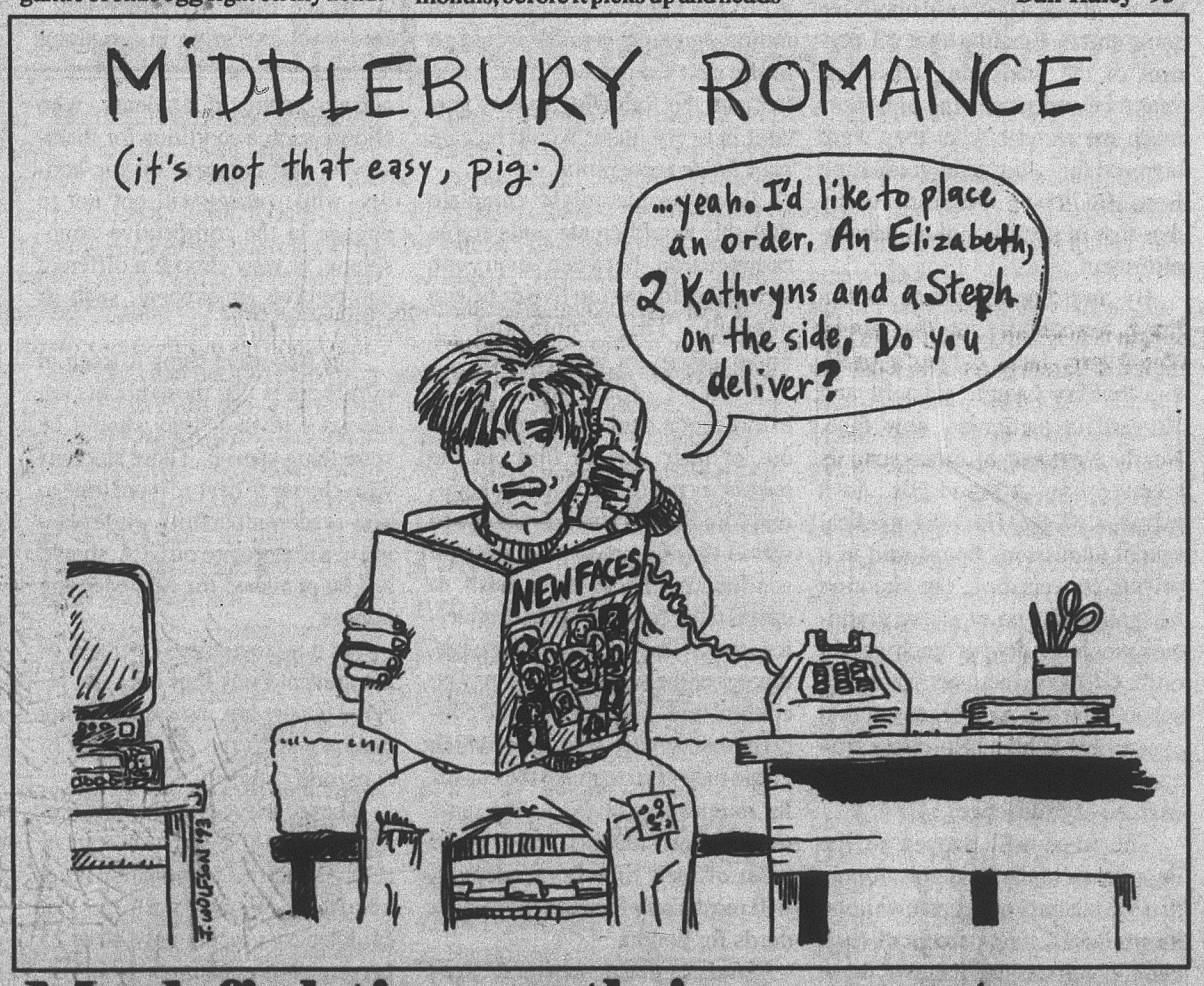
I heard that THE BIRD has been "loaned" to us for the next four months, before it picks up and heads for Chicago (has anyone warned them?). I wonder, does this mean "loan" as in, "Hey, could you guys kind of keep an eye on Little Bird for the next four months until he goes to Chicago? Thank you so much!"

Or does it mean "loan" as in "Tell you what. You give us X thousand dollars, and we'll do you the favor of dumping this enormous bronze chicken on your lawn for the next four months."

I wonder. Because if this campus can go ballistic over spending some money on a path for which there are at least some valid arguments, what would happen if it leaked that we were spending tuition dollars on the bronze version of the KFC Colonel's worst nightmare? Just wondering.

"So this thing is here for the next four months," I thought. "Shouldn't it be flying south pretty soon?" I looked again at THE BIRD's tremendous girth and relatively tiny wings. Not a chance. I guess the only thing we bird-haters can do is pray for snow. A LOT of snow.

Dan Haley '95



Paris' Como Coco Bueno

(continued from page 7)

dates and mentioned it casually. Then one of the girls looked at the two of us and declared, "I don't understand why! You're the prettiest Black girls I've ever seen."

"Excuse me?" Tina replied.

"Well, you know. Most black girls have bad complexions and that ugly hair. But you guys have pretty skin and your hair's not like theirs."

Tina gathered her things, stood up and climbed off the bleachers. She stopped at the bottom and looked at me. If it is possible for someone to be paralyzed by someone else's words, it had happened to me. This person was our friend?

"April." Tina's voice nudged me into consciousness. I got up and we left our "friends" for the other bleachers on the other side of the court.

That was the beginning of it. The invisible line between "them" and us had been clearly drawn.

There is a dynamic in this country that contradicts its very foundation. A nation that prides itself on opportunity still rejects those who take advantage.

It still holds true that with hard work a person can accomplish many things; however, racial prejudices put a ceiling on these accomplishments.

Not too long ago my father purchased an empty lot in my neighborhood and found someone to lease it from him. The gentleman, a member of the community, wanted to open a fast-food chicken franchise. While the deal was being made the zoning laws were mysteriously changed, so when my father went to get building permits it was impossible. Not even our City Council representative could help.

So my father called his client back and told him that the deal could not be consummated. The gentleman asked my father to wait and see if he could get anywhere with it. A few days later the client called back. He was embarrassed and ashamed. The message to my father: he had not succeeded.

When they finally spoke, my father's client confessed the source of his shame to him. The representative had been embarrassed when the client had approached him about the new zoning. "There's been a mistake," the representative had told him "We thought that black man was going to own the restaurant!"

Mud-fighting path is preposterous

It is inconceivable that 36 of 57 student government representatives recently voted for a concrete path connecting Munroe Hall and the McCullough Student Center. The passing of this bill is ridiculous, short-sighted and ultimately, embarrassing. Let us tell you why we feel this way.

1) There is a fundamental flaw in our approach to solving this problem. It is a very typical human response we are witnessing. We see a problem, and concrete is the answer. When are we going to learn that sometimes we have to adapt to our environment rather than manipulate the environment to satisfy our desires?

2) It seems all too coincidental that this bill is passed right when the path is getting a little muddy due to the seasonal change. We are not afraid of getting a little muddy, are we? Have you ever heard of L.L. Bean? They have great hunting boots which work wonders during muddy times. If you wanted to walk on concrete and not on mud you should have gone to NYU.

3) The proposed concrete path would intersect one of the most popular playing fields on campus. When playing football, Frisbee, or cricket who wants to slide into a nice slab of cement?

4) Laziness seems to be at the heart of this issue. There are already at least 2 concrete paths from Munore that would lead one to McCullough. It might take a whole 60 seconds longer to take one of these already existing paths, but is 60 seconds of saved time worth $17,000? So it will take a bit longer to walk from Munroe to McCullough if one is unwilling to get his shoes dirty. But what is the big rush?

5) To address one of the important issues — that of safety on campus. If you are that concerned about safety, would it be asking too much to take one of the already lit paths? Carry a whistle or walk with a friend; there are alternative means of achieving safety which are cheaper and more logical.

6)After all, this is Vermont, where the pace is slow and as they say—when in Vermont, do as Vermonters do.

Victoria Bulkley '94
Christine Kennelly '94
Britt Newsome '94

MARK FELDMAN

Look Who's Talking

I've learned a lot in the last four years of my life. College is an experience not everyone gets to enjoy, but of course, we sometimes take it for granted. I know I have. But with just a few short weeks to go (and then a brief descent into Hell for English Comps.), I will be thrust out into the wild blue yonder known as reality. I figured that this would be an excellent time to lay some advice on the younger generation of our community. Those of you who already know everything can skip to the Overheards.

I'm not claiming I know the meaning of life, but I can tell you some of the key elements to having a good one. Hey, free advice is good advice; that's what I always say. So, consider this column to be a real bargain— from me, to you.

First off, a good life is a balanced life. Too much partying, too much studying and too much hanging out with squirrels, just isn't good for you.

Life is made up of a thousand million different parts. The most difficult thing for all college students to learn is how to budget their time. (The second hardest is opening their mailbox.) How often have you said, "I don't have enough time?" Too bad, because you'll never have enough. And you won't "find" the time to do it either. Make the time. Commit yourself.

I don't like to do things at the last minute. (Although, some practically live by this philosophy.) I don't think it's a bad philosophy; I just wouldn't want to find myself entering my last semester of college and realizing that I haven't done a hundred different things which I now don't have time to do. At this point in my life, I'm pretty happy with my choices; the only thing I didn't get to join was Pugwash, but maybe that's for the better. Who knows?

The second key to life is to prioritize. Everyone has got their own top ten list (Some have several of these.), and that's okay. Just make sure you feel good about your own list.

I prioritize classes and grades as pretty important. No doubt about it, I like to do well in school. However, I take my extracurricular activities seriously, too. Often, I've given up hours of studying just so students from the A-frames to KDR can enjoy the fantastic articles found in the features section each week. (Plug it when you can, I always say.)

Yet, hanging out with my

(continued on page 11)

'Little Bird' nests on Arts Center's lawn

By Jennifer Duffy

It is the biggest thing (literally) to hit Middlebury since the Arts Center, and oddly enough, they are connected. Of course, I am referring to "Little Bird," the bronze sculpture by Fernando Botero, which is currently squatting in front of the aforementioned building. The ten-foot tall statue arrived Nov. 15, after leaving New York's Park Avenue where it had been displayed along with fourteen other Botero sculptures.

Now, I must admit, when I first saw the sculpture, I was skeptical. Actually, my exact thoughts were, "I am so proud that Middlebury has taken its place in the Vermont tradition of gigantic roadside animals, alongside the two Route seven favorites: "Gorilla Holding Automobile" and "Genie With Rug."

I did attempt to reflect on the deeper meaning of "Little Bird," but could only see it as a symbol of the large amounts of poultry served in Proctor. After all, being stuffed with broccoli would account for the bird's inordinate plumpness, and its tail bears a striking resemblance to a fan of chicken fingers.

However, my cynical views did change (somewhat) after I spoke with Kara Klein, the assistant to the Arts Coordinator. Klein explained that a trustee of the college saw the sculpture in New York, fell in love with it and felt it should be displayed here. The goal of the sculpture's four-month stay, according to Klein, is to "connect Middlebury with important events in the art world and to open people up to art." She mentioned that the Middlebury College Museum of Art is considering starting an ongoing public sculpture exhibit but would first gauge community response to the current work.

Klein described Botero as "a humorist who pokes fun at the stuffiness of art" but stressed that public art is not a joke. In Botero's case, the work is meant to be both tangible and approachable. The Columbian painter-turned-sculptor has an international reputation in art circles and has recently exhibited in Monte Carlo and in Paris' Champs-Elysees. In March, "Little Bird" will leave Middlebury for an exhibition in Chicago.

After speaking with Klein, I felt slightly guilty for my initial reaction to the bird and was more willing to give public art a chance. I decided it would be a good idea to get a feel for the opinions of the average person on the street.

"It looks like a sparrow had sex with Godzilla, and this is the offspring," commented Mel Green '94. This focus on the sculpture's size was echoed by Becky Wehle '94, who emphatically stated, "It's just a big chicken. A big, fat chicken."

I began to wonder if there was anyone with a higher sense of art— anyone who actually liked the bird. In desperation, I turned to the place where I assumed the Arts Center Party Line would be represented— the monitor's desk.

"It symbolizes our desire to fly away," the monitor, who wishes to remain nameless, began. "However, since it is made of bronze, it shows that we are trapped!" So much for serious artistic appreciation.

Tiffany Claflin

Botero's "Little Bird," previously on exhibit on Park Avenue in New York City, now graces our campus. The sculpture will stay here until March and will then be transported to Chicago.

In general, the response to "Little Bird" seems to be one of cynical antagonism, but perhaps, there are a few people who connect with the sculpture on a deeper level. Some may appreciate it more upon learning that the bird is only on loan (i.e., for free), and the college has no plans to purchase it. Ever.

So cast aside your fears of tuition being hiked up to $50,000 a year to cover acquisition costs, and go take another look. After a close examination of the raw artistic power of "Little Bird," you might even find yourself crowing for the display of more public sculpture here at Middlebury.

Behind the mailboxes: Talking with La Rose

By Shamoil Shipchandler

What are the top three things that you usually hear when you walk into the mailroom?

a) Oh great. No mail again

b) Oh great! I got mail!

c) It's Thursday! I get to read *The Campus*!

David La Rose, Student Mail Center Supervisor, has heard all of these comments and more in his eight years of service at Middlebury. "Student Mail Center?" you ask. "Whatever happened to 'the mailroom'?" Well, replies La Rose, "this is the 90s, so we can upgrade the mailroom, too."

La Rose has certainly witnessed a lot in his years at Middlebury. Arriving in 1985, he has seen the mailroom go from total chaos to perfect order. One thing that has remained the same, he says, is the quality of student workers. Twenty-three students share mailroom duties, with shifts of either four, five or six hours a week. The only problem with this is the high turnover rate as students progress from semester to semester.

Valerie Stori

La Rose enjoys hearing unsuspecting students scream in surprise.

Along with providing quality service, La Rose says that students are "cheap entertainment." (A disgruntled employee in the background was heard to mutter, "and vice versa.") After working twelve years at the state liquor store, La Rose was ready for a change and thought that working with students would be a lot of fun. "Any job where you can listen to the radio, joke around and have a good time while putting out a good product appeals to me," he says.

A typical day for La Rose begins early at 8:15, when most of us are still rubbing the sleep from our eyes. Walking through the mailroom, he picks up the mail that students have "shot back" through their boxes. At 8:30 is when the work really starts. The mail is delivered, and La Rose and his students have to sort the mail and have it in the boxes as soon as possible. This is for two reasons: first, for the students' convenience, and second, La Rose's pet peeve is when students come up to him and ask, "is the mail in yet?" This usually happens over 25 times in the day and, of course, does not include the amazing number of phone calls he gets, asking the same question.

The day does not end there, however. There are still package deliveries to contend with. UPS usually delivers by noon, but the express mail can come in at any time. In addition to this, there is also intercampus mail, which comprises about half of the total amount of mail the mailroom handles. All told, La Rose speculates that there are approximately 10,000 pieces of mail being processed a day. This does not include packages, which number around 200.

The only things that La Rose finds frustrating about the job are the deadlines. "People always expect their mail immediately. They never give a thought to how much mail we are turning over."

With all of the repetition inherent in the job, La Rose is surprised by the fact that it doesn't get monotonous. "We keep really busy," he says.

The busiest times in the mailroom (jot this down, people, it's a hot tip) are at 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. This is when either classes let out, or packages can be picked up. Another tip: the color of the mail slips can give you a clue as to what you are receiving. White is UPS, yellow is insured or express, and green is the regular parcel post. Why green? "Because it was the brightest color the reprographics center had," said La Rose.

(continued on page 10)

Global Links' Banquet helps promote hunger awareness

By Lee Chilcote

Consider these facts:

"No famine, no flood, no earthquake has ever claimed the lives of 250,000 children in a single week. But malnutrition does every week."

"Every year, hunger and poverty-related causes claim the lives of an estimated 13 to 18 million people—the equivalent of 100 fully loaded jets crashing every day."

"Hunger continues to plague an estimated one billion people — one out of every five persons — around the globe. Yet the world produces enough food to feed everyone."

Signs with these facts printed in bold, capitalized letters assaulted my eyes and awakened my senses as I walked into the Oxfam Hunger Banquet last Tuesday night in the Chateau. I found myself looking around at the messages scattered about the walls of the room and noticed most others doing the same. Each of us reacted differently; some expressed outward awe while others merely looked uncomfortable.

It was clear from the faces that this new knowledge had an impact. The Hunger Banquet, sponsored by Global Links, divided the Chateau into three sections paralleling reality: There were two first world tables, four second world tables and a tablecloth spread upon the back floor representing third world countries.

The first world tables were elegantly set with a white tablecloth, cloth napkins, candles and a crystal container of cranberry juice. These two tables were also waited upon. The second world was not quite as lucky; we were seated, but we had none of the luxuries of the first world, and we lined up with trays to serve ourselves from a buffet table. Finally, for those who found themselves part of a third world nation, they were forced to sit upon the floor, crowded against the back wall, and were fed only rice.

Many students hardly consider the amount of food they waste by throwing it away.

Upon entering the Chateau, I picked from a hat where I was to be seated and drew a second world table. On each person's slip was also their new identity.

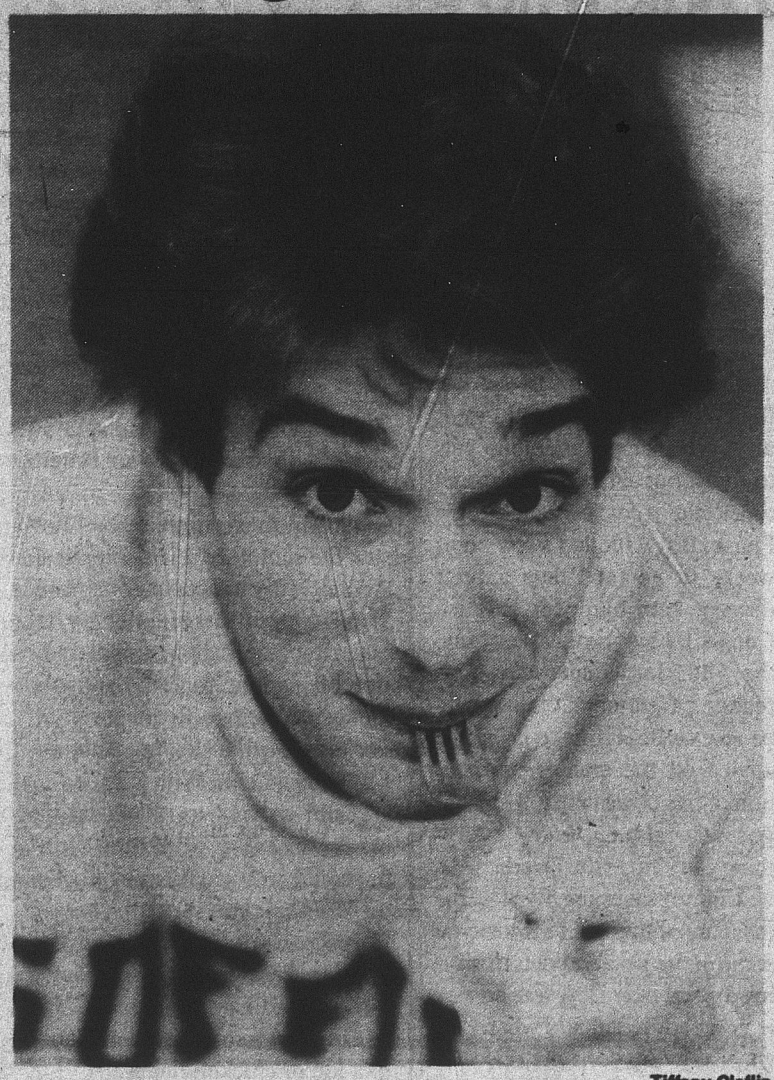
My slip read: "I am Chen Po. I am called Junior here at this restaurant. I make food I can't afford to buy and take the bus home to my small apartment and eat white rice and some vegetables each night. I am lucky to have this good job because I have five children to feed ... I am proud that my children are learning English and will do well in America."

The detailed description made the night seem more interesting, dramatic and life-like. It served to make the experience concrete and alive, giving each diner a chance to play the role of a character from a randomly selected "world."

At the end of the dinner, the leaders of Global Links, Evelyn Lipscomb '95 and Iffath Sharif '94, spoke about the goals of the event. They explained that many people fail to appreciate life in a first world country.

Many students hardly consider the amount of food they waste by throwing it away. One student gave a gripping example of this point. In elementary schools, she said she noticed that they use uncooked rice in games. Considering that in many parts of the world rice is the main staple of their diet, this story clearly illustrated the disparities and ironies that exist in our world.

Professor Eric Davis and Chaplain John Walsh attended the banquet and also spoke. Walsh summed up a key theme of the evening with the word "interpret." "Interpret the facts as they are given to you," he said, "and try to determine the truth of the matter for yourself. Don't accept what the politicians and media tell you is wrong and right, think for yourself."



Tiffany Claflin

Students who participated in the Hunger Banquet got to experience what life is like for people living in second and third world countries. The dinner was sponsored by Global Links.

It seemed an important point, considering that one sign which read, "1/3 of the grain grown in the world and 1/2 of the fish caught are fed to animals in wealthy countries." Clearly there is a discrepancy here that can not be solved in the near future.

Oxfam writes, "The roots of hunger lie not in natural disasters, scarcity of food, or poor people's unwillingness to work hard, but rather, in poverty and injustice, unequal distribution of resources and the debt burden of poor countries ... We can help poor people by providing access to economic 'building blocks'—such as land, safe drinking water, seeds, tools and training — so they can feed and support themselves."

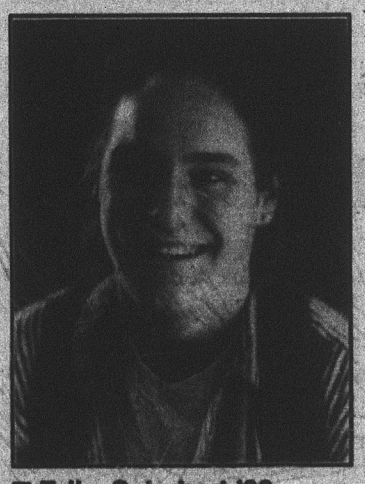
Everyone at the Hunger Banquet learned a great deal about the difficult situation facing many developing countries. The success of the dinner relied on creating the emotional impact of experiencing life in another person's shoes.

CAMPUS VOICES

Now that Thanksgiving is over, what do you look forward to most during Winter Break?

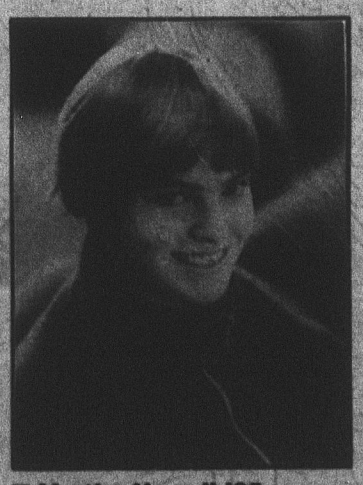
■ Tripp Hock '94

"I can't wait for that traditional yuletide dinner of Spam and eggnog. I'm also looking forward to the gifts Santa might bring."



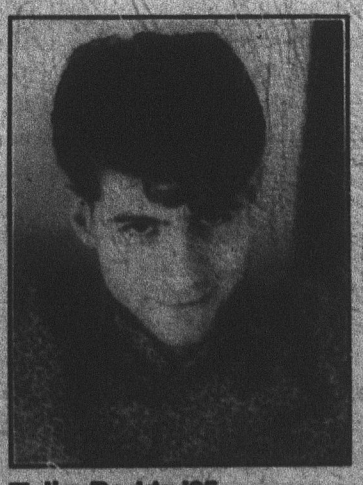
■ Erika Schubert '96

"I am going to ski and see my friends; I'm gonna relax and not have to stress about anything...I'm going to have some time for me."



■ Martha Newell '95

"I am looking forward to snow. I can't wait to go skiing with my brother during the break."



■ Jim Rodda '95

"Absolutely nothing. I try to live day-to-day, and I don't like to think more than one week in advance."

Compiled by Jeremy Davidson
Photos by Tiffany Claflin

La Rose delivers mailroom antics

(continued from page 9)

For all those who wonder what happens in the mailroom from 12:00 to 1:00, you finally have your answer. "I usually go find a quiet corner to be by myself," says La Rose. "I just unwind."

Of course, I had to ask about the most interesting packages La Rose has ever handled. Not surprisingly, the Science Center always gets interesting things. Usually, these interesting things have eight legs and are furry. That's right.

Tarantulas. These critters are often dropped. Other packages included a coconut with the address stapled to the outside. How it got here is a testament to the U.S. Postal Service.

Within the realm of "normal" stuff, some lucky person racked up twelve packages in one day. She holds the Middlebury record for parents with nothing better to do.

Finally, I just had to ask La Rose, "What do you guys do for fun?" With a completely straight face, he replied, "We wait 'till the lights are off, and as people get their mail, we grab their hands. Preferably females, of course. They scream louder." Can anyone say, "heart attack?"

When the day is done, La Rose heads home, content that no one has died from his practical jokes. If he doesn't grab a beer on the way home, he likes to have a cup of coffee and kick back with the sports page.

I asked, "La Rose, do you get your mail first thing when you get home?" "Nah," he replies, "I could care less. My wife gets it."

LOOK WHO'S HIRING

- Write a weekly column
- Assign articles
- Get 'up close and personal' with Hieu Nguyen

Features!

BE PART OF THE TEAM

'Superstar' fans travel to Boston

By Joshua Kucker

Ted Neeley and Carl Anderson. To the uninitiated these names mean little. To my friend Jeff and myself, they mean one thing, the heavenly voices of Jesus Christ and Judas Iscariot in "Jesus Christ Superstar." A few weeks ago, Jeff and I road-tripped to Boston to see the best musical ever to grace the stage.

I first became aware of the production during my trip to the Boston Garden in September to see Billy Joel. While waiting for the T, I glanced through a local newspaper. There I saw an advertisement for the (second?) coming of the revival tour of "Jesus Christ Superstar," starring Ted Neeley and Carl Anderson, who immortalized the roles of Jesus and Judas in the 1973 movie version of the story. I nearly passed out in sheer ecstasy.

We ordered tickets, which were not cheap at $55. (The price included all the bonus service charges and local and state taxes that Ticketmaster could stick us with.) But we didn't care, we were going to see Jesus, and no price was too high.

Estimated time of arrival into Boston was 1:30 p.m. Before watching the greatest show on Earth (no, not the circus), a first-rate dinner was in order. Durgin Park fit the bill (picked up by Mom) quite nicely. That night, I feasted on steamer clams, prime rib, Maine lobster and hot apple pie á la mode (and some Alka-Seltzer after the fact). After eating, we knew the best was yet to come.

Before continuing, I must digress momentarily. Everyone has, at one time or another in their lifetime, experienced a truly major disappointment. Life inevitably throws a few minor tragedies at even the luckiest of persons. For Jeff and me, tragedy struck on what we had hoped would become the most legendary Saturday night of our lives. We entered the Wang Center only to have our hearts shattered with thirteen terrible words printed innocuously on a small sheet stuck inside the playbill. "At this performance, the role of Jesus will be played by Danny Zolli."

I wept, openly, among a capacity crowd. I didn't care if this guy was as good or even better than Ted Neeley. I paid good money to see Neeley, and I wanted the real thing. After we finished drying our tears and blowing our noses, we found our seats and prayed that this substitute Jesus didn't ruin the show.

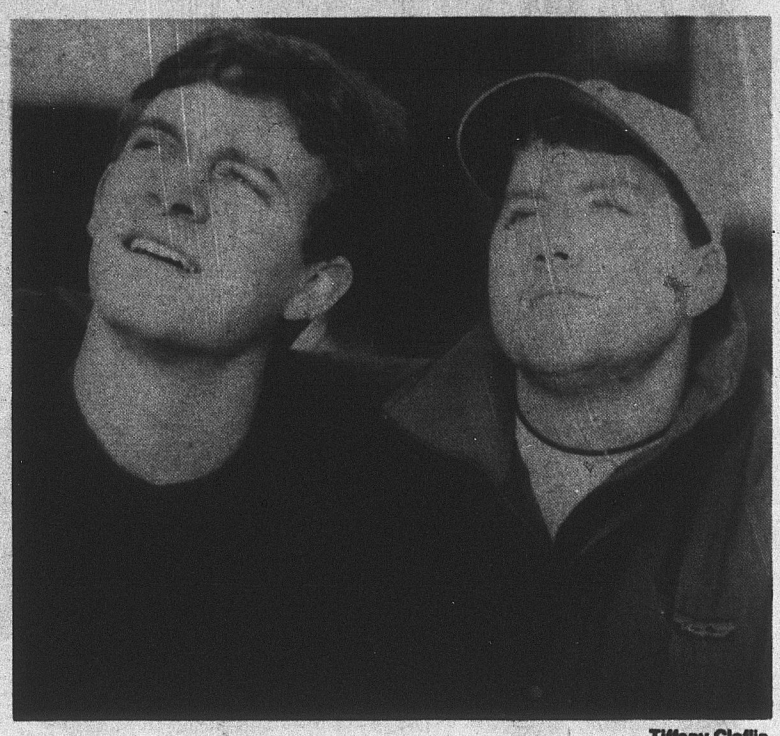
The show began with Carl Anderson singing the opening number, "Heaven on Their Minds." Tears flowed from my eyes again; this time tears of joy. I felt pure, unadulterated euphoria as Anderson powerfully delivered the beautiful score of legendary composer Andrew Lloyd Webber. Anderson's voice moved me in ways that no recording ever had. It was electrifying. It took a tremendous amount of willpower to keep myself from jumping up and singing along with the legend.

After all was sung and danced, I have to admit that Danny Zolli wasn't bad. He hit the high notes well, but his voice seemed a bit whiny in the lower registers. His control and emotion were fine, but he was no Ted Neeley.

The supporting cast and chorus were superb. Laurent Giroux as the Rocky Horroresque, transvestite King Herod was hilarious. Syreeta Wright played Mary Magdalene beautifully. David Bedalla as Caiaphas hit low notes that made the bass section in the D-8 look like second sopranos. My only criticism was that James O'Neill as Pontius Pilate had a tendency to speak his lines more than sing them.

The audience enjoyed the show, too. The supporting cast were given their due applause. But the crowd instantly rose to its feet as Carl Anderson took his curtain call. We remained standing when Danny Zolli came out, but in my heart, I know myself, along with everyone else in the theater, was just being nice.

The drive back on Sunday was a bit of a downer as Jeff and I had spent a good deal of emotional energy absorbing the greatness of the performance. With a mended heart, I eagerly await to see the show again on Dec. 23 in Portland, Oregon. (Did I tell you how much I loved the show?) Hopefully, Ted Neeley will be back in action, for I know that hearing his voice sing the part of Jesus will truly be a heavenly experience.



Tiffany Claflin

Joshua Kucker and Jeff Herriott have "Heaven on Their Minds."

Look Who's Talking

(continued from page 9)

friends is even more important than classes or activities. How many times have I handed in a mediocre paper or taken a quiz unprepared simply because I was hanging out instead of studying? (That was a rhetorical question.) In those cases, I could live with a bad grade because I made the choice. I didn't do poorly because I "had no time to study," or was "forced to do it in the last minute." I am responsible for the way I prioritize my life.

On top of classes, activities and friends, I value myself most of all. I don't pull all-nighters because I love to sleep, and if I don't sleep, I get sick. I suppose if I waited to do a paper until the night before it was due, I would have to stay up all night. This is my point: I wouldn't wait that long. Unless you enjoy walking around like a zombie and complaining to others about how miserable you feel, you shouldn't either. Prioritize what is important to you.

I don't admire people who spend their entire weekends in the library, and I'm not impressed with people who can drink all night and not feel a thing. Congratulations, maybe I'll see you on Geraldo. Balance your time wisely because there's never enough, and you never get it back.

The next piece of wisdom comes from the Talmud. Don't ask me to quote the page or source (I really don't know), but it is something my brother once taught me. He asked me, "Who is the wise man?" And the answer is, "The man who learns from others." I consider myself an intelligent person. Not because I have a 4.0 (in my dreams), and not because I'm good at crossword puzzles (I'm not bad at them, though). I think what makes me smart is that I've learned to learn from others.

Everyone you meet has something to teach you. Everyone you meet knows something you don't. The trick is to find out what it is they know, and add it to your own store of knowledge. This is the key to wisdom.

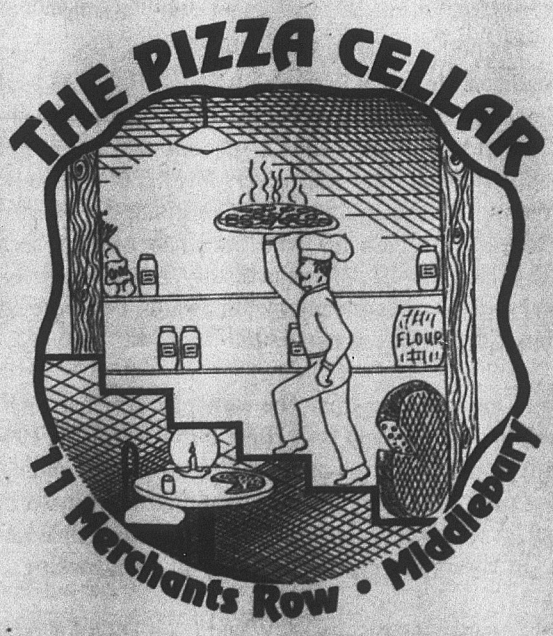
However, in order to learn from others, it is essential that you realize that there is a lot more that you don't know than you do know. Nobody has the right answers all the time (yes, Hieu comes close, but the exceptions are few in number). There is a great danger in closing your mind to questions of religion, science, philosophy, politics and equality.

What many of us perceive of the world is only a pinhole view of the vast mural of life. Do not accept that view as the final picture because you are merely handcuffing your own mind. (So, I guess you could call it mindcuffing.)

I am not a teacher. I am not a preacher. I am not a poet (Although, perhaps, I am and just don't know it.) I am speaking these words to the people who read them. And the people who read them are the people who probably already understand and implement the advice I have just given.

This is just a reminder then, to those people who will eventually contribute to this world and make it a better place for themselves and for others.

And, if you have learned something new from me, then truly, you are a wise person, indeed.



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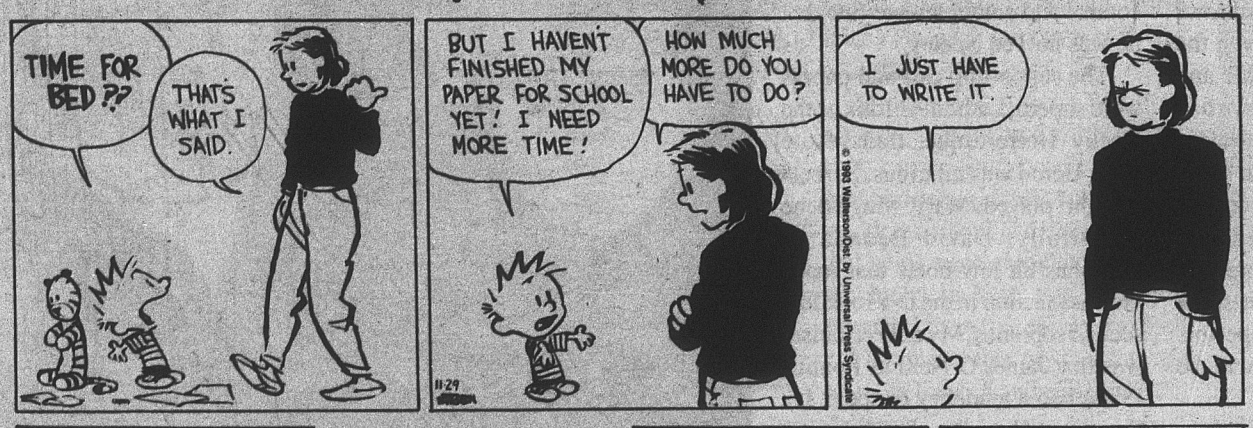

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Male non-smoker looking for off campus apartment for spring term. Does not own pet. x3837.

88 Accord DX, 64K Miles, AM-FM Tape, 5sp, 2DR, Excellent condition, $5175. Call 388-4109 evenings or 388-6603 days.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our residence halls will be closed during the Holiday Season. Students need to be out of the buildings by December 21. Please pull down your shades, lock all windows and doors before you leave. The Custodial staff will be checking all of the rooms to make sure that this has been done after you are gone. Please make sure to take all of your belongings which you will need for the vacation. Students who plan to remain on campus during the holidays must contact Hieu Nguyen no later than Dec. 10. All students who will not be returning after the Fall Term must leave rooms as they found them in September. The first meal to be served will be dinner on Tuesday, Jan. 4. Classes will begin on Wednesday, Jan. 5.

$24,000 Fellowships for Future Teachers: The James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, a federally-endowed program designed to strengthen instruction about the Constitution in the nation's schools, will award generous fellowships in 1994 for masters-level graduate study of the framing and history of the U.S. Constitution. College seniors and college graduates who intend to become secondary school teachers of American history, American government and social studies are eligible for awards. For more information, call Mr. Dry at ext. 5305.

Winter Parking Ban: The winter parking ban took effect on Nov. 1, 1993 and is in effect through April 1, 1994. The ban prohibits parking on town streets between midnight and 6:00 a.m. All night parking is permitted in the lower municipal lot on Bakery Lane and in any other municipal lot where signs have been erected allowing all night parking.

Summer Internships in Washington D.C. for Academic Credit! For information, call 1-800-486-8921. Application deadline: February 11.

Do you thrive for ADRENALINE? Middlebury College Cycling Team wants YOU! Absolutely no experience needed. Road bikers: G-Force Romer x4209; Mountain bikers: Spence 'the Pope' x3878.

The Elementary School located on Rte. 100 in Waitsfield Village will hold its annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 10am to 4pm. Traditional holiday crafts, decorations, seasonal plants and special items from local merchants will be on display and available for purchase. Guaranteed fun for the whole family!

Attention all singers and instrumentalists! Have you always wanted to sing and/or play jazz, show tunes, standards, blues, etc.? Then here is your chance. Glyn Trevillian and Gigi Broadie are hoping to organize a series of cabaret performances during the spring term featuring student performers. For more information, please contact Gigi x 7164 or Glyn x5894 before you leave for break.

The Age of Obsession:
'Way of the World' opens

By Kara Klein

Are the social concerns of appearance, status and success time specific, or are these concerns simply the way of the world? Do we, as individuals and as a society, spend any less time today fidgeting with concepts of presentation than we did, oh, say 200 years ago?

When the Wright Theater curtain opens on "The Way of the World," by British Playwright William Congreve, social critique will rrrrole from the tongue like so many properly pronounced r's.

First performed in the 1700s, the play is a comment on that era: both a reaction against the deposed Puritan government and an examination of the elite society reestablished with the Restoration. This was the time of big wigs and big hips, pomp and posture– where wit and an adroitly applied fan could slay the most noble, and where "conservation" was not in the vocabulary. Women were, for the first time, allowed to portray themselves on stage, and sexuality was a subject open to discussion.

With a lead in like that, you must have already correctly assumed the thematic seed from whence this play sprouted: romance, the love of Mirabel and Millamant. Considered the cream of the social crop, the young couple, played by Ana Reeder '94 and Claudio Medeiros '90, struggles to live within the constructs of a society which they, in part, abhor.

Objecting to the deviance and deceit which shape social politics, Mirabel and Millamant search for a relationship devoid of games. The remaining cast of fourteen men and women work tirelessly against the two renegades to preserve the wantonly shallow and whimsical lifestyle on which they thrive.

Under the direction of Farone, the cast of sixteen has edged slowly into their respective roles as 18th century socialites. Eleven-plus weeks of rehearsal in corsets and hip pads might have that affect on anyone, but according to Ana Reeder, the ability to successfully assume a role depends on the ability to understand the character.

She sees the distinction between Restoration England and today physically different. How women chose to display their bodies, what they wanted noticed, and even the definite stance and posture women assumed in the past were all contrived to establish a desired effect; and though the desired effect may not have changed all that much in 200 years, the presentation sure has.

Claudio Medeiros '90, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in Directing and Dramatic Literature at the University of California at Berkeley, and who has returned briefly to Middlebury to work with Farone on the play, spoke in terms of linguistic challenges. Language, much like fashion, he said, was ruled by excesses in the period of the Restoration. Wit was carried through extended metaphor, and truth, if it could be found, was buried somewhere under layers of syntax. For his words to pack the right punch, Medeiros had to learn to speak quickly, clearly and precisely, without forgetting to breath.

Erik Borg

David Barlow '94 and Andra Harbold '94, two leads in the "Way of theWorld," duck and cover.

As much a comedy as an acerbic examination of an obsessive culture, "The Way of the World" will run from Friday, Dec. 3 through Sunday, Dec. 5. Performances will take place in Wright Theater at 8 p.m., with a Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets are $3.00 for general admission, $2.00 with college I.D., and are available at the Box Office, ext. SHOW.

DePalma delivers in 'Carlito's Way'

By Robert Perez

This Christmas season's high profile, big budget sequels serve up a return to Wayne's World, Culkin gets lost again, the Addams family has a kid, and Whoopi returns in another ungodly Sister Act. Luckily, there are a few movies remaining which act less like blockbusters and more like films. "Carlito's Way," starring Al Pacino and Sean Penn, is one them.

Brian De Palma ("The Untouchables," "Casualties of War") directs this gangster genre piece as he seeks to maintain his image as one of the few remaining artists in the business. Al Pacino stars as Carlito, a Puerto Rican Mafia man just out of the pen, trying to turn over a new leaf. Despite a need to come clean, his connections, his family and most importantly, his friends, make this an impossible break.

Sean Penn acts as Pacino's longtime friend and lawyer whose performance is actually better than Pacino's. As a need for cocaine and money push Penn's character to the edge, he ultimately makes the fatal transition from legal council to gangster.

What we have is a piece where the director and actors are trying like hell to make it more than just another gangster flick but are constrained by a script which was financed because of essential gangster elements: drugs, women and violence (not necessarily in that order). But the work communicates on another level, giving us strong themes which are allowed to surface mostly because of a voice-over narration by Pacino throughout the film. Then again, the narration is most successful when it doesn't try to push the plot forward but acts as a passage into the beautiful pschye of Carlito.

Carlito's character is rich, real and believable. From recognizing set-ups to experiencing passionate encounters with Penelope Ann Miller's character, we are driven to a very deep level of compassion and empathy for the man. We need him to reach his aspirations, even though we know he cannot. The story-telling technique of starting the film with Carlito's death shows us the inevitability of his end but also creates an unnecessary distance between the audience and Carlito, which is mostly the fault of De Palma.

In fact, much of the accustomed De Palma visual strength is not used. Instead of telling the story through images, he is relying on the voice over. But it should not be an either/or situation. Luckily the themes are very strong. Instead of the familiar Mafia message about loyalty to the family, "Carlito's Way" preaches loyalty to friends. When Sean Penn's character offers to sell out Carlito, we see a man alone who is emotionally empty.

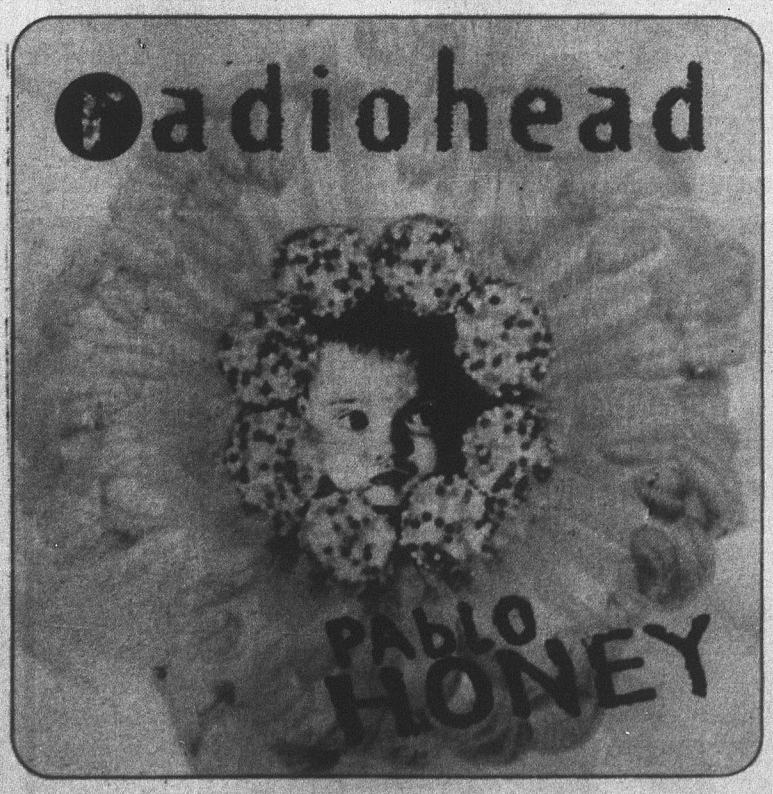
In the end, "Carlito's Way" is a powerfully moving piece with acting that is as good as it gets. The only thing keeping this one from being a timeless classic is the script. If only art were so easy.

The unremarked demise of the Manchester Sound

By Matthew Williams

A recent *Time* cover featured Pearl Jam singer Eddie Vedder in one of his typical angry man howls. Inside, the magazine examined the success that alternative rock has had in the past few years. The article covered Pearl Jam, Nirvana and Soul Asylum, among others. It concluded that alternative music is being threatened by its own commercial success and is now in danger of losing the cachet that took it to the top.

Lost in all this debate is the fact that the emergence of alternative music has been driven mainly by American rock groups. One day Nirvana is just a bunch of scumbags from Seattle, and the next day their second album sells six million copies. In the *Time* article, only one or two British bands were even mentioned. What could account for this disparity? Is the British pop group a dying breed?



To the average listener, the answer is a resounding "yes." It was just three years ago when Manchester, England was *the* scene in pop music. Bands like the Stone Roses and the Happy Mondays churned out trippy, guitar driven songs that drove all night raves in England for three summers. They brought back notions of unity to pop music (the Stone Roses' "One Love") and even gained a modest hit in The Farm's "Groovy Train." For a moment, it seemed like the British pop tradition was entering its third stage, and the world seemed to be its willing victim.

But then the party ended. With much fanfare, the Stone Roses signed a huge deal with Geffen Records three years ago, and some claimed that their second album would be the most anticipated in rock history.

Comparisons to the Rolling Stones came off journalists' word processors quicker than you could say "fad." In late 1993, the album still has yet to surface. The Happy Mondays, after scoring hits like "Step On" succumbed to drugs and fell by the wayside. Others, like Blur and The Farm, have persevered, but no one really cares.

Were the Manchester groups victims of the fickle mindset of record companies and the public alike? Or was there something about the British aesthetic that the American public never caught on to? Sure, Jesus Jones and EMF had some success, but they were always the happy face of the scene, lacking the thuggish quality of the Happy Mondays or the drugged bliss of the Stone Roses. Their conventionality played a large factor in their success. The similarities with some American groups is obvious. Think about it for a second: Pearl Jam is a decent band, but are they really distinctive in any way? Take away Vedder's formidable voice, and you're left with a nondescript four piece.

But, perhaps, the Brits will survive. Radiohead, a group out of Oxford, had a big hit with their song "Creep" last summer, which helped to shake people out of the American orthodoxy that rules pop music right now. And The Cranberries, an Irish group, are doing well with their *Everyone Else is Doing It, So Why Can't We?* album. Pop music thrives on the latest and coolest, so it seems just a matter of time before the American groups become passé, like the Brits before them.

Greenwood's Groove
Tea Co. brews magic!

By Dan Greenwood

It seems that Wood's Tea Company has been coming here forever. I first saw them three years ago, and they have visited the Gamut Room once or twice a year since. Last Sunday, I was prepared for more of the same Americanized Irish music that they had performed on previous occasions with guitars, mandolins, banjo, the occasional bodhran and their three part harmonies.

So, I was surprised last Sunday when I didn't recognize one of the members. He turned out to be Tom MacKenzie, who joined the band last April to replace a departed member (who, alas, left with all the mandolins). His hammered dulcimer, fine clawhammer banjo and lilting country voice move the band further away from Irish traditions and closer to Appalachian and old-timely sounds.

I was also surprised by the presence of electronic instruments in the show. A grey plastic EWI sax took the place of a penny whistle on a few tunes, and on occasion, MacKenzie's keyboards provided an ethereal background, which the acoustic instruments nicely complemented.

Wood's Tea performs a wide variety of music, including traditionals from both sides of the Atlantic as well as songs by contemporary writers such as Stan Rogers, Tommy Sands and Eric Bogle. Sands' "There Were Roses," a plea for peace in Northern Ireland, was requested by many at intermission and was a highlight of the evening's performance.

My only complaint about the show was the lack of original pieces. I asked for "Matthew 12:16," my favorite song from their *Journey Home* CD, only to be told that they have never performed it live. The only original in the show was not announced as one despite its warm reception. They obviously have the song writing and musical talent to create a more original repertoire, and hopefully, next time they reach the Gamut Room, it will be with more confidence in their own music.

Tiffany Claflin

The Wood's Tea Co. are known for their on-stage antics.

Courtesy Photo

Women go gaga over Baby Pubert. Pubert is pictured with the newest Addam's addition, Beary.

Recycled TV show strikes black

By Rodney Rothman

"Addams Family Values" is one of the worst films I have ever seen. Its plot is skeletal and shallow. Its pacing is irritatingly fast. It is yet another half-hitched retread of a failed sixties sitcom. It pairs together a bunch of actors who could never make it on their own — they are the sum of millions of dollars of coca-cola advertising, forty tons of makeup and seven truckloads of embarrassing overacting. The jokes are easy and have all been done before. Thusly, I recommend the movie wholeheartedly.

If you go to "Addams Family Values" expecting to see a "film," you're going to be repulsed. If you go expecting to laugh so hard that snowcaps come out of your nose, then, uh, you'll be disapointed, because its not quite that funny. But its pretty funny — are we so snooty at this intellectual mecca that is Middlebury that we can't enjoy mindless entertainment? The movie is basically a bunch of jokes strung together by a plot as suibstantial as dental floss. Of course, virtually every joke plays off the same exact theme, which is simply taking a normal dysfunctional family (like the Cleavers) and simply reversing it. Morticia, (Angelica Huston) actually gets to enjoy going into labor, and the Addams' newborn is given the playground-friendly name Pubert. I saw kids have a tough time in second grade with the name Richard, for God's sake. You have to feel for the little tyke.

An amusing sequence takes the angst ridden Addams' youths, Wednesday (Christina Ricci) and Puglsy (some fat kid), to summer camp, where they rub shoulders with some Middlebury-esque snobs and narrowly escape being molested by a poster of Michael Jackson. My favorite moment of the film involved a summer camp musical revue about Thanksgiving that featured small children wearing turkey costumes and singing, "Eat me! I'm a turkey! Rip of my arms!" Raul Julia proved once again that hamming it up is the way to go if you're an otherwise nondescript third tier movie actor. All these mediocraties, howerver, add up to a decently funny big picture. Funny enough, in fact, to distract me from the fact that Christopher Lloyd (from the "Back to the Future" films) is the most grotesque and annoying movie star this side of Gerard Depardieu. I laughed a lot, and I think you will too, as long as you check your brain at the door.

Of course, there are plenty of sensitive thought-provoking movies out there, but if it's a rainy December afternoon, and by some freak coincidence, "A Perfect World," "Dazed and Confused," "Short Cuts," "The Three Musketeers," "Mrs. Doubtfire," "My Life," "The Piano" and "The Remains of the Day" are all sold out, then see this terrible movie and laugh a lot anyway in the name of good old brainless, commercial, Coca-Cola approved fun.

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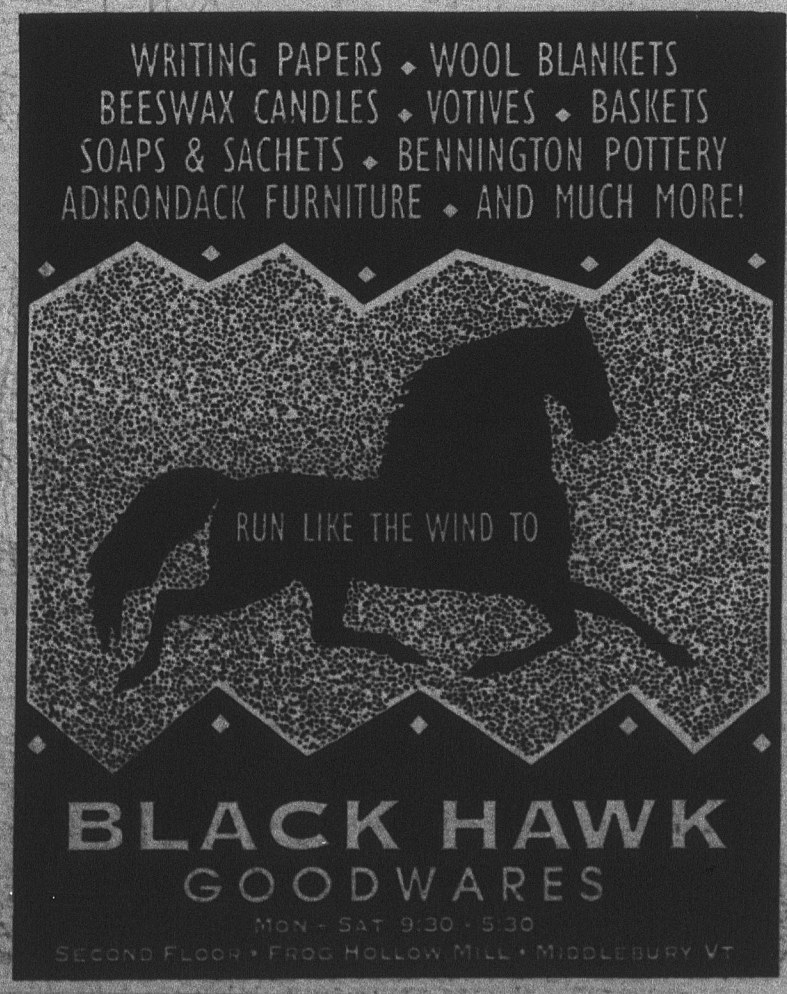


The hardest working man in journalism is looking for a partner in crime. Help the Arts Section subvert the boredom of the rest of this rag. Call me Ishmael. Jon, x4169.

Holiday STRESS: How to handle it all with grace

Greeting Jesus at the bus station

By Jenna Lane

Ah, holidays. Think of all the vacation time you have spent in the back seat of the family wagon, smashed between cousins and crying siblings, wishing that Grandma's house were around the bend and not nine hours away. Now that we have grown older, our collegiate status means promotion to a window seat on that long ride over the river and through the woods. But to get home, let alone to grandma's, we who go away to college also get to suffer the anxiety of taking mass transportation.

These two seemingly innocent words can conjure up some nasty images, especially around the holidays. We have all heard the nightmarish stories about lost luggage, seatmates who drool and ticket agents who look nice but speak no English. Most of us have experienced these and other horrors, whether on buses, trains or airplanes. Few of us, however, really stop to appreciate the joys of traveling.

Where else but in an airport can you find candy bars for several dollars or keychains that were popular when you were seven? An airport is the perfect place to satisfy your urge for a fluorescent pink "Someone in Salt Lake City Loves Me" shirt. In San Francisco, privileged travelers can learn about the history and origins of bowling! As you walk (or take the moving sidewalk) to your gate in the United terminal, be sure to catch the endless series of glass cases with museum-quality exhibits of crusty bowling shoes. Philadelphia and Dallas-Fort Worth airports both have overgrown golf carts to take you to your gate, and though they are meant for senior citizens and handicapped, they move slowly enough that you can hitch a ride when the driver isn't looking.

There is absolutely nothing that merits description in the Burlington airport we all know so well, though the metal detector is worth mentioning. It will pick up every item even remotely resembling metal on your person, down to the change and the foil food wrappers in your pockets. Once you have stripped, however, you should be able to pass through with no problem.

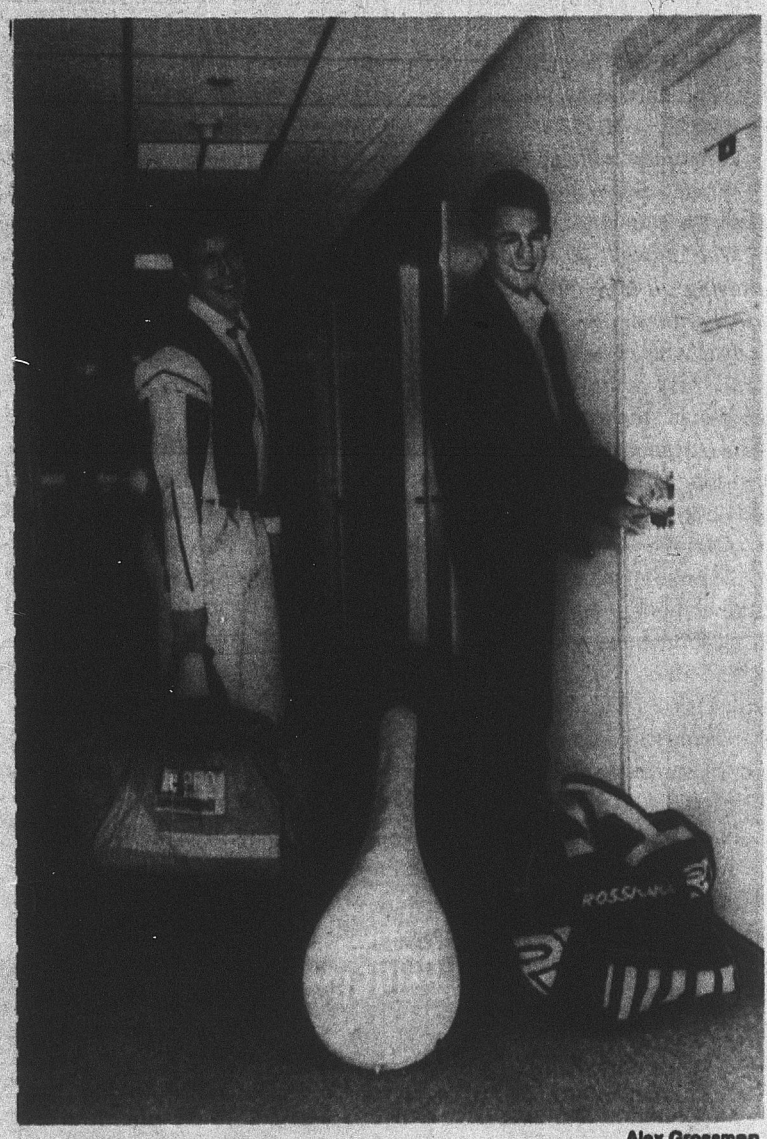
A somewhat less complicated and definitely more entertaining form of travel is the all-American bus. If people-watching is your sport, break out the dark glasses and have a ball this holiday season.

Bus stations never fail to offer a delightful array of characters, from would-be Jesuses to aggressive and mean-spirited rats. In the Port Authority in New York City, for example, I have had both ask me (in their own special way) for bites of my food. A good trick for avoiding the sketchy seatmate: bring a pack of gum and hastily chew and apply every piece to the seat next to you.

Bus drivers are a fun bunch, so if you happen to be sitting up front (which I recommend, as those bench seats in back are often pretty much couples-only), talk to your driver. Find out if she really is mute and only opens her mouth to take a drag from her cigarette. Challenge yourself to learn his name, since it disappeared long ago from the "Safety-Courtesy-Service" plaques.

Also in New York, Grand Central Station is particularly festive, with several bands and street musicians to attract your attention. But watch out: binocular-wielding crooks may be lingering behind you at the telephone booth, waiting to sell your credit card number to those who can't afford to call Calcutta themselves. On the other hand, you may happen to meet your future spouse, or the person who wants to give you an internship this summer (but doesn't know it yet).

No one can deny that holiday travel is, at the very least, an adventure. The trick is to enjoy it. Get into the holiday spirit! If you're flying, resist the urge to scramble after those ever-scarce blankets and pillows in the overhead compartment. If you're driving, pay the toll for the car behind you. It can help get a family wagon like yours to Grandma's that much faster.



Alex Grossman

Students prepare to leave their dorms with visions of planes, trains and automobiles dancing in their heads.

When family gets too close, plan your escape

By Jed Morse

The holidays are a time of joy and merriment. After a hard semester at school, they are a wonderful opportunity to relax and catch up with friends.

However, the holidays are also a time when relatives come from far and near to gather, greet, and exchange gifts, stories, good tidings and other such wares. Although it is "so good" to see your kinfolk, they can be quite a nuisance during the holidays.

Seventeen aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents all asking you how school is going, what your major is, and what you plan to do with it does not help one unwind. So if you need to get away from the family for a little while, and I'm sure you will need to at some point this holiday season, here are a few tips to help you escape.

First of all, never neglect the importance of food. Does this scenario sound familiar?

A cornucopia of aromas waft from the kitchen to fill the air and heighten the anticipation of filling one's stomach. But wait, Mom needs some more sugar to make the pie.

If there is a lack of something, anything at all, never hesitate to volunteer to run to the store and remedy the situation.

Not only is this a good way to get out of the house, it also makes you appear to be a generous, helpful and caring person. Don't worry. Your relatives will not catch on. They haven't seen you since last Christmas when you pulled the same stunt.

Another way to avoid the relatives for a while is to hide. There are so many people crammed into your house that no one will notice you are missing for at least an hour.

You can pretty much hide anywhere your family is not, but I would not recommend hiding in your own room. That's the first place they will look for you. The TV room is the second.

If you really want to trick them, try the guest room. No one ever goes in there, especially if it is being used by visitors. Not only is this maneuver effective, but also it can be entertaining.

Many a chuckle have I gotten from this little gag. I can just hear my Mom standing right outside the guest room door saying, "Has anyone seen Jed?" Try to not burst out laughing right away. You might give yourself up.

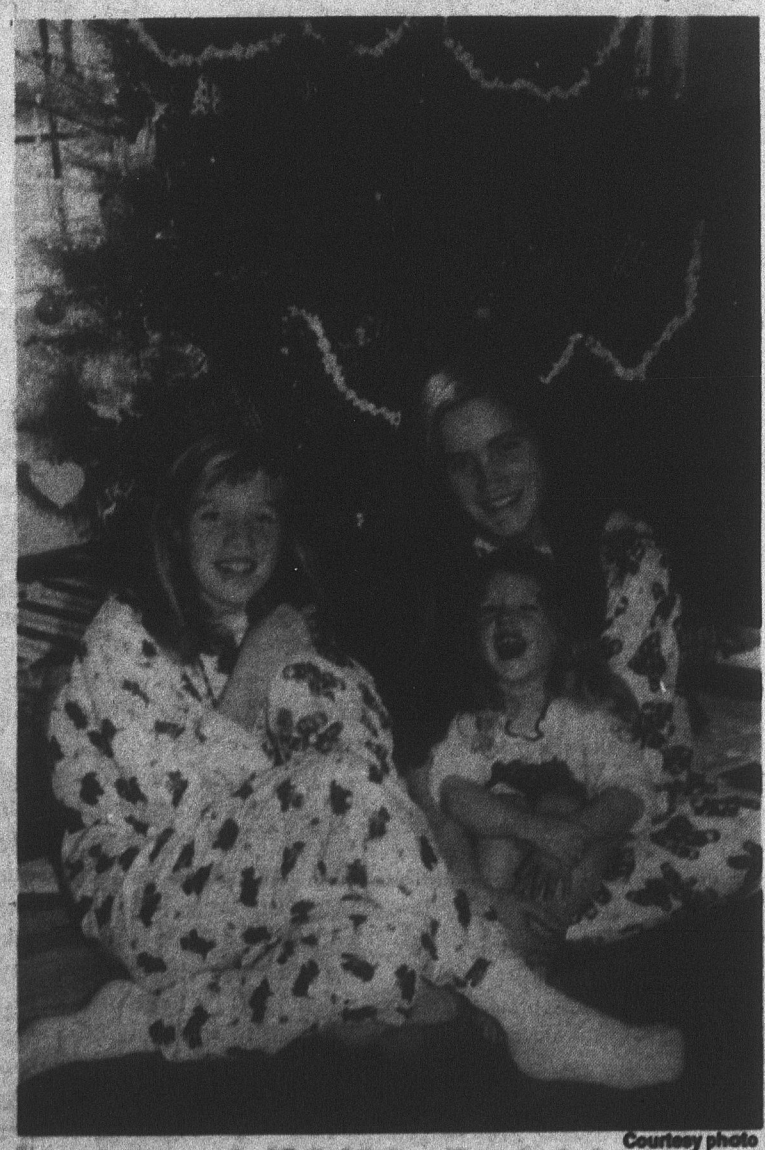
By far the best way to get away from the family during the holidays is to get them to leave. If your home is anything like my home during the holidays, and I'll bet it is, then you may have noticed that the house is only inundated with relatives as long as there is still food to be eaten. So eat as much as you can, as fast as you can.

The faster the food is gone, the quicker the relatives will leave. Feed it to the dog. Do what you must, anything, just get rid of it.

The kinfolk wil be hasty if they are still hungry in a house bare of food. They will say, "Oh, there's no more food here? That's okay. We'll just go out to eat."

Trust me on this one. I have seen it happen. Let's just say that last year, my dog was extremely well-fed.

So eat up and stay low, and do what you can to enjoy these wonderful holidays.



Courtesy photo

If your family is not always as charming as this one (or even if it is), know that hiding in the guest room is always an option.

Here are some holiday pitfalls to be wary of...

*never be the one to get stuck finding, checking and unravelling all the Christmas lights

*never offer to be the one to drive all your friends to holiday parties

*never give clothes as gifts, unless you are absolutely sure you have the right size

*never offer to pick up grandma...from anywhere

*never put too much JD in the eggnog at a family gathering, lest you run the risk of inebriating any septagenarians in the group

*never hide a gift for a loved one so well that you can't find it either

*never bring a significant other to a family gathering if the family has not had the opportunity to meet him or her beforehand

*never go shopping with grandma

*never let the kitty near the tree

Hurdle the final obstacle to fun

By Brooke Capps

Sleigh bells ring, are you listening?

Sorry, can't hear a thing except my conjugations of ancient Japanese verbs.

In the lane snow is glistening.

What?! Snow? Must of been when I was in late night study.

What a beautiful sight, we'll be studying all night. Workin' in Finals Fantasyland.

Ah, what a wonderful time of year: silver bells, Frosty the Snowman, the Grinch, Christmas carols, Hanukkah Harry, and lots and lots of books underneath the old desk lamp.

All right, with all the usual stress of the holiday season (buying gifts, finding money to buy gifts, decorations, food, family ordeals, etc.) we should all be able to kick back and watch the cookies bake, right? But no, we must submit ourselves to the severe mental and physical torture of FINALS (Latin term: *finalus examinus*).

Just as the strain of classes themselves come to a close and it appears safe to take a deep breath and relax, there, lurking in the shadows of the last week and a half are the ghosts of your courses—and they are out to get you. These ghosts (a.k.a. *finalus examinus*) will make you do weird things.

Honestly, think back to the last time you had midnight breakfast under normal circumstances. When was the last time reading and studying actually came before eating and general personal hygiene?

Perhaps the worst part of finals is the actual studying. Once you get into the test, you either know the material or you don't; you either write for a very long time or you doodle. Although artwork is amusing and relaxing, the most beneficial way to cope with *finalus examinus* is to hit it head on and write until your hand cramps, withers and curls up into itself. Unfortunately, writing a lot means knowing a lot, and knowing a lot means studying a lot.

Not only must you chain yourself to a chair in the library and glue your eyes to your books, but you must avoid a companion of finals called procrastination (*jerkitris offdra*).

Procrastination involves anything that is not cold hard studying. Some examples include: trying to psychoanalyze your professors to see what questions they will ask, sharpening your pencils, breaking in your highlighter or rearranging your books in neat piles.

Now, small doses of procrastination are called study breaks (*chewitus fatoisis*), and are good for your mental health. However, should you find yourself picking your nose, searching your hair for split ends, or making anagrams of your name, I strongly suggest that you repeat to yourself, "Now I lay me down to study/ I pray to God I won't go nutty/ Should I die before I wake/ that's one less test I'll have to take."

In the end, there is no fun way to cope with finals. So dig your hole deep and get comfortable, but don't forget to come out when it is all over. Hey, even if you recreate the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel on your economics test, at least there will be eggnog and good food at home.

Tiffany Claflin

Taking advantage of Middlebury's wide shopping options and the ever helpful plastic, this student takes holiday shopping by the horns, getting an early start at Fourth 'n Goal.

Movies that will put you in the holiday spirit

*A Christmas Story
*National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
*Die Hard I and II
*The Grinch Who Stole Christmas
*Merry Christmas, Charlie Brown
*A Christmas Carol
*When Harry Met Sally
*It's a Wonderful Life
*Miracle on 34th Street
*White Christmas
*Steel Magnolias
*Heidi
*Home Alone I and II
*The Nightmare Before Christmas
*The Sound of Music
*Big
*Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
*Frosty the Snowman
*The Shining
*Ice Castles
*The Cutting Edge
*Misery
*Scrooged

Shopping made simple

By Jon Herman

Jingle Bells, The Nutcracker Suite, trimming the tree, dreidels, mistletoe, eggnog, dancing sugarplums, friends, family, stockings, the eight nights of Chanukah, cookies and milk for Santa, laughter and gifts. These are all things many of us associate with the holidays.

At the same time, however, the holidays can mean lines, busy malls, the guy in front of you buying the last item, sales at which the prices are actually higher, tired feet, creative thinking and decision making. Being in the joyous holiday spirit can certainly make these things less of a hassle.

But more practically, being organized, thinking ahead, having a list, having a budget and having a lot of patience will all help in making the Christmas shopping season go more smoothly and reduce holiday stress.

Unfortunately, I have trouble with some of these practical suggestions myself and have a feeling that I am not alone. I would like to offer my tips on shopping for those irreplaceable, precious gifts that will bring a lifetime of joy.

My first piece of advice is to not get stressed under any circumstances over holiday shopping. Just because there is this pressing deadline for you to deliver does not mean you have to freak out. After all it is the thought that counts, so if you miss the actual date by a few days there are no big problems. What are a few weeks or months between friends? However, if you do feel that being punctual with your gifts is important, a nice I.O.U. card can be a beautiful thing.

Next, you must realize that the gift that you give them will be fine, and they will love it (or at least fake it pretty well). This leads me to my second point: there is no perfect gift. And since there is no perfect gift, you do not have to be very choosy. Go for general interests. And if you don't know a person's general interests, buy something you like.

Now that these problems are dealt with, I must focus on the actual shopping aspect. Brace yourselves, this is usually the most tortuous part. As annoying as they are, go to a mall.

That way you can cut down on the time you spend running around. You must use your time efficiently; after all, you only have one day (most likely one afternoon), Dec. 24.

When you pull into the parking lot, fight for a space. Do what you have to do.

Once you are in the mall, go straight to your favorite stores. It is in these places where you will most likely find everyone's favorite gifts. If it is absolutely necessary for you to go into a clothing store, make sure there is at least one available bench and drink a cup of coffee beforehand. Slowly proceed into the store and grab something quickly. Pay for it and leave. It will be the right size. If not, the gift box will show them where they can exchange it.

Before you leave the mall, make sure all your gifts are gift-wrapped. You will not have the patience nor professional skills to put paper around these boxes later. If a box is not already wrapped, bring it right back. If the store will not wrap it, choose an attractive bag. It will be just as nice as wrapping paper.

Once you arrive home, it is essential that you don't talk up the gifts you have just bought for all your loved ones. That way they will not be visibly disappointed when the climactic gift-exchanging moment finally comes.

At this point, it's all over. You may sigh with relief and know that you won't have to see a mall again — at least not for 364 more days.

Refine your gift giving and receiving etiquette

By Julie Birnbaum

There is a frenzy of tiny, incessantly blinking lights. Ahead looms a pyramid of fruitcakes. Synthesized versions of "Jingle Bells" echo in your ears. Strange, sweaty men in red furry suits ask you to sit on their laps.

Suddenly, the stores of the mall begin to lower their metal grates. You have five minutes to choose gifts for the entire family.

Out of the crowd, a figure emerges: your great-aunt Bertha. She thrusts a large package at you and grins encouragingly. Your stomach turns as your fingers sink into the thick, smooth polyester…

You wake up, sweating and breathing hard. The stress of giving and receiving holiday gifts is upon you; here are some gift exchanging strategies to help you avoid the nightmares:

1) Make a list and subtly pass it out to friends and family, and/or slyly circle items in selected mail-order catalogues. If great-aunt Bertha is going to get you something anyway, it might as well be something you like and will use. Don't forget to specify if you want bark, sea-foam, or watercress color from J. Crew.

2) Treat gift wrapping as an art. Some stores are really in the holiday spirit and will wrap for free. This method has another advantage: many stores put a little sticker with their name on it on the package. This way, gift recipients know where to return those items if necessary. However, if you must wrap, don't stress. Buy a bag of those stick-on bows and you can't go wrong. Also, after the gift ritual is over at your house, you can collect them and stick them all over your neighbor's cat for fun.

3) Learn to open gifts under pressure. Remember that some people take their gift wrapping very seriously. Have a heart, and don't violently rip open their painstakingly tied, taped and folded masterpieces. Then, every year, there is that one present that just repulses you, and/or that you already have, whose giver watches your face intently as you open it. Everyone can survive these moments with some practice.

Russell Baker shared his holiday technique in his autobiography, "Growing Up": "In the privacy of my bedroom I began composing and testing exclamations of delight: 'Wow! I'm the luckiest boy alive!' ... Maybe it would be better to say nothing but appear to be shocked into such deep pleasure that speech had escaped me ... I tried the whole range of expressions: mouth agape and eyes wide; hands slapped firmly against both cheeks to keep the jaw from falling off; ear-to-ear grin with all teeth fully exposed while hugging the torso with both arms. These and more I practiced for several days."

4) Recycle. Remember that rhinestone-encrusted sweatshirt your cousin Tammy sent you last year for the holidays? The one still in the box in your closet? Don't you think Bertha would love it?

5) Plan a little in advance and leave time to consider each person you need to buy for. Parents love anything you give them, especially if you make it yourself. Try a popsicle stick bird feeder this year. Your significant other has always secretly wanted a T-shirt with a heart-framed computer photo of the two of you. It's also wise to buy an extra generic gift, like candy, for that random person who sometimes appears out of nowhere to give you something. And if no one does, hey, you can eat it yourself.

PERSONALS

Jailed art thief wishes to correspond with any student whose fingerprints are not on file in Washington. Art history majors especially sought after. Box 500, 79B609 Elmira, NY 14902.

Tom LaMotte for King!

To the cast and crew of WOW: My dears! All's soon over, and at least thirty minutes faster than we expected. Thanks to all for a stupendous time. Your best wits always rally their best friends to close. —Tony

To the pretty photographer who made it to all the games, even Tufts: I'm bummed the season is over. Do I have to take up lacrosse to catch a glimpse of you again??

Formal Invitation to friends and foes of Mr. Blake who will be in Moscow Spring '94: Please come for our double Cossack wedding in March. Kartoshki and Kapoosta would be appreciated (we're having serious cravings). Miss you guys, Eva and Tina

NSPA—Thanks for the best round of golf ever.

To the heavy breather, scream for me baby. —Joey "the Elbow"

OVERHEARDS

"Where's Petulant with my yogurt?" —during a lull in Act IV

"Watch out for her. She's wired on jelly beans." —in Wright 205 about an RA with a low sugar resistance

"There are some things that I hold in very high esteem— one of them is women with ice smooth legs."
—lonely junior male in Copenhagen during a gathering of Midd students from Mainz and Stockholm

"I wish I were a pretzel because then I'd have no fat and I'd be baked not fried."
—stressed student in the Crest Room after a hard night of studying

"This campus is just one big hormone." —?

"Your boot could be my girlfriend."
—frustrated senior

"Everybody feels like a frog sometimes."
—?

"She missed her rabies shot."
"Now she's going to get pregnant." —?

"The only time I've ever opened up Artemis is to look at the nude Madonna photos...how ironic is that?" —overheard in Proctor

"I can't get into the bathroom."
"Who's in there, what's that noise?"
—overheard at the Campus party

"He probably added that after he was done, to keep the harpies in the Women's Union from jumping him."
—overheard in the Campus headquarters

"They deserve two overheards for what they did." —overheard at Harris Farm House

Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU

Runners fall short of NCAA expectations

By Zachary Caldwell

Unfortunately, in the final race of a fantastic season, Middlebury's cross country women had an uncharacteristically bad day.

The squad was in Grinnel, Iowa on Nov. 20 for the Division III NCAA Cross Country Championship meet. It was the first time a team has represented the college at a national championship since 1970, when the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) was formed. A NESCAC rule change this past year, allowing teams to attend NCAA Championships, gave the cross country team the opportunity to go to Grinnel.

Leslie St. Lawrence '97 led the team, placing 76th, and was followed by Casey Clifford '96 in 96th, Kristin Daly '94 in 120th, Michele Anastasio '97 in 149th, Amy Hollingsworth '94 in 156th, Kate Kercshbaum '96 in 162nd and Sarah Rebick '97 in 165th. As a team the women finished 19th.

Coach Terry Aldrich said that the team was disappointed with their result. But as he reminded the women, there were 26 teams from New England that would have gladly traded places with them that day, as only three New England teams qualified.

"It was a tremendous honor simply to be there," Aldrich said.

Aldrich was unable to explain why the team ran slower than expected, except to say that they really did not know what to expect. With the exception of Daly, none of the runners had been to nationals before and it is a very young team, with five first-year students and sophomores.

Aldrich stressed that while she did not have the best race of her college career in Grinnel, Daly has had a stellar running career at Middlebury.

"Kristin Daly has been the heart and soul of this team for the past four years," Aldrich said of the two time All-American.

While Daly and Hollingsworth will be moving on next year and will be sorely missed, the remaining five runners and their junior varsity teammates, having gained some valuable experience, are already looking forward to a strong season next year

Swimmers hit the water against Wesleyan

Ilse Guck

The Middlebury women's swim team claimed victory over Wesleyan in their first meet of the season, Saturday, Nov. 20. The men's team lost by a narrow margin to Wesleyan.

Inconsistency pervades college football national championship

By Paul Krissoff

In a year marked by controversy and the new Bowl Coalition Poll, college football experts can only agree on one thing: the present system used to find a national champion is riddled with inconsistency.

There is no doubt that until a post-season tournament is created (like college basketball's March Madness), there will never be a true and unanimous college football champion. With the idiocy of the NCAA in mind, however, we must realize that such a tournament is far away. So the big question remains: who deserves the right to play for the number one ranking in the country? The Bowl Coalition Poll, a synthesis of the two major national polls created to determine which two teams deserve such a chance, has spoken. Florida State (11-1, number one in the Associated Press Poll) will play Nebraska (11-0, number one in the CNN/USA Today Poll) in the Orange Bowl, the winner earning the dubious national championship title.

There is no reason that the teams with the two best records are necessarily the two best teams.

What about West Virginia? Sure, they went undefeated and did "all they could do." Or did they? Their schedule simply didn't compare to Florida State's, partly because the Big East is not a very strong conference.

It certainly is not West Virginia's fault that the Big East does not make for a tough schedule, but it is their fault that they didn't play stronger non-conference games. Florida State played Notre Dame and Florida on the road and also Miami and Kansas as part of their non-conference schedule. This is why FSU will play for the title and West Virginia with Coach Don Nehlen will have to accept playing in a lesser bowl game. What about Notre Dame? Many people argue that since they have only one loss like Florida State, and since they beat Florida State, they have more of a claim than Florida State. They don't, however, because they beat Florida State in a very close game at home and because their road schedule was soft. This combined with the fact that they lost at home to Boston College, a team that had just entered the Top 20, ruined Coach Lou Holtz's shot at a second championship.

It is very important to remember that the point of a national championship game is to have the two best teams in the country play each other. There is no reason that the teams with the two best records are necessarily the two best teams. While many people might feel sorry for the Mountaineers of West Virginia, college football experts have come to the conclusion, and I believe rightfully so, that victories over Miami and Boston College are not enough to warrant a place for them in the Orange Bowl. Nobody can be sure that the nation's best will be playing each other on New Year's Day, but I believe the polls are presenting us with the best educated guess.

Panther Shorts

• Women's Basketball

Middlebury women's basketball opened its season with a bang. After their first four games, the Panthers post a 3-1 record. In the NESCAC Tip-off Tournament hosted by Trinity, the Panthers beat Connecticut College, 73-50 and defeated Hamilton by a 80-54 margin. They suffered their first loss to Division II St. Michael's in the home opener on Tuesday, Nov. 23. They went on the road Nov. 27 and were victorious over Wesleyan by a score of 51-42.

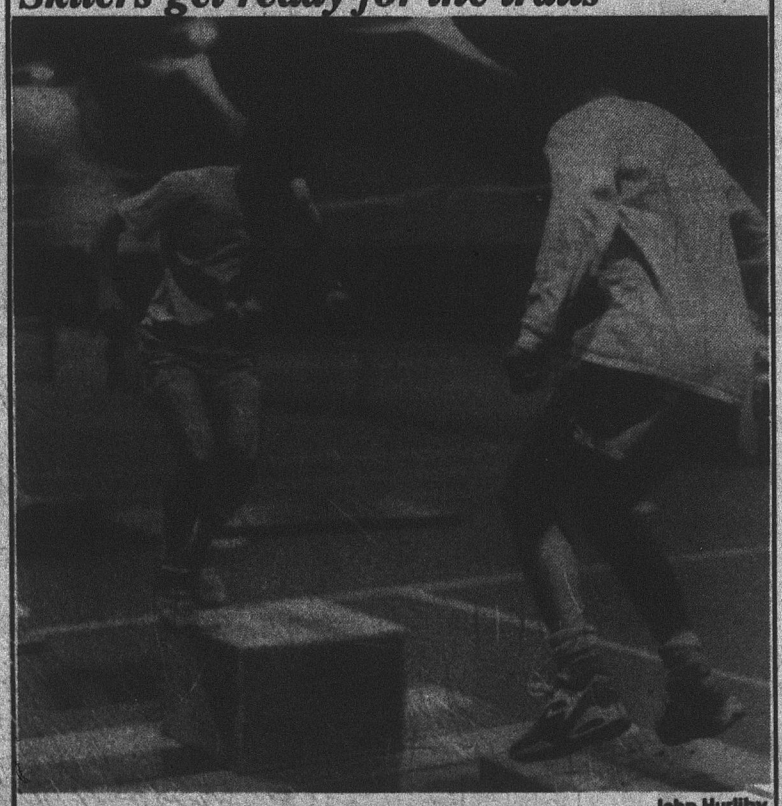
• Women's Hockey

The Panthers opened their season on Nov. 20 with a blowout victory over Williams, winning by a 9-0 score.

• Women's Squash

The Middlebury women's squash team prevailed in consecutive victories on the road over Colby and Bates. They posted two 9-0 wins to give them a 2-0 record.

Skiiers get ready for the trails



John Hurlihy

The cross country ski team practiced for their upcoming season.

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Pagano triumphs on court, in class

By Megan Feeney

Two swords clash on a rural hill in 18th century England. Feet move in a dance-pattern, but this is no lazy waltz. They are not partners and when the duel is finished, there is a happy victor and a panting loser. The victor takes off a fencing mask and long, luxurious hair flows down to her athletic shoulders. Elizabeta Bysone, surprising her fictional contemporaries with the quickness of her sword and the sharpness of her intelligence, has been introduced through sport. Elizabeta is the heroine of Christina Pagano's senior English thesis: a historical romance novel that Pagano hopes to have published by Harlequin Regency Romance. Of her two hundred page literary endeavor, Pagano says, "It's my stress reliever."

Two teams battle it out on the basketball courts. Shoes squeak in a fury of dance-like patterns. This weekend, the happy winners were Middlebury's women, leaving Wesleyan panting and sweating, looking up at a scoreboard that reads 51-42. Pagano wears a victor's smile. For many at Middlebury College, Christina Pagano has been introduced to them through the sport of basketball.

But running down the courts as a small forward or standing under the net as a shooting guard, Pagano's versatility is not limited to athletics. She is as complex a character as her heroine.

In fact, versatility has become somewhat of a creed in Pagano's life. Along with playing basketball, Pagano fills her days at Middlebury with a wide range of activities.

As an influential member of both the Student Government Committee for Athletic Life, and the Board of Trustees for Athletic Policy, Pagano finds time to co-direct Middlebury's Intramural Department, run two individual, intramural sports leagues (football and volleyball), and work as a student athletic trainer. But again, the scope of Pagano's energy and talent transcends athletics.

Along with writing a romance novel, Pagano is a member of the Student Government Financial Committee and works as a mortgage-loan auditor for a student-run operation on campus, still managing to maintain a 3.5 grade point average as a English major with a concentration in both Corporate/Managerial Economics and Physics. Pagano spent last summer as one of two Middlebury students selected to attend the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business, receiving graduate credits and exploring the potentials of the business world.

Tiffany Claflin

Chris Pagano '94 shines on the court and in the classroom.

And you thought you were impressed by her vitality and endurance on the court. Pagano can easily recall a time when her only opportunity to shine was in the gym, when a powerful villain of sorts threatened to smother her character-defining versatility.

Pagano spent her freshman year at the University of Washington, her life defined by the walls of the gym. She had a full-ride scholarship, the intensity of Division I competition and the adoration of devoted fans, but Pagano felt as limited as a woman of the 18th century. "I knew I didn't want basketball to be my life," she says.

So Pagano made the biggest play of her life, taking the matter into her own hands. She transferred from Division I to Division III, from the west coast to the east coast, from her home in Seattle to a dorm room at Middlebury. Sustaining an injury that summer, Pagano was unable to play basketball for Middlebury immediately, so she transformed her reaction against a bad situation to a decision to make the best of her situation. "I really had to re-evaluate what I wanted out of a college experience."

Pagano says, "I'm not just an athlete. In my three years at Middlebury, I've had the opportunity to find out who I am and what I want."

"Now," Pagano says, smiling victoriously, "I'm not just an athlete. I've spread myself around which is a virtue of Division III athletics. In my three years at Middlebury, I've had the opportunity to find out who I am and what I want."

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the extra point

Feast on turkey TV

By Neall Currie

Thanksgiving means cable TV and that means televised sports. Networks and big-time sports know that college students will be home — or at least somewhere where there's a large, high-resolution television that gets cable, and if that's not home, nothing is—so they conveniently schedule a huge menu of sporting contests. Sure, you could take in the 16 hours of football available, but you'd be selling yourself short. Besides the football, there was a ton of basketball, a bit of golf, some skiing, some skating, a touch of hockey and the Stihl Wood Sports Championships.

As you can imagine, I learned more in this one weekend than in the past ten weeks of school.

Thanksgiving was five days of sports excitement, virtually none of it routine. The biggest story in Indianapolis was Indiana University losing their first basketball game to the Butler Bulldogs since 1956. Hoosier coach Bob Knight, who preaches the gospel of discipline and dedication, made an appearance on Late Show with David Letterman earlier in the week, but no one in the Indianapolis area was quite daring enough to hint that maybe Coach Knight's concentration wasn't what it should have been. I even waited until I was safely in Vermont to put that in print.

I got to see Georgetown's sophomore center, Othella Harrington, play after a summer of working out with Patrick Ewing, Dikembe Mutombo and Alonzo Mourning. I would say that he should be the number one pick in the next National Basketball Association draft, but he won't be; you can count on John Thompson's players to finish school.

In football, I saw a huge brawl that featured a coach hurling his players out of the fray, West Virginia laying claim to the number one ranking that no poll will give them and the Detroit Lions learning what it means to be a one-man football team without the one man when Barry Sanders injured his knee.

I also saw the solution to the Astro Turf problem that I wrote about several weeks ago. I'm sure you remember; severed patellar tendons aren't something you're likely to forget.

The answer was buried in the Dallas Cowboys/Miami Dolphins game played on Thanksgiving Day—the game Leon Lett helped Dallas put the losing touch on. The game was played on Astro Turf in a snow squall; there was at least half an inch of wet snow on the field for most of the game, usually more. The traction was reduced to the point where kickers couldn't plant their foot on a long kick for fear of falling on their backs. It was also reduced to the point that there were no Wendell Davis or Steve Emtman type injuries — non-contact injuries that occur strictly because of the unforgiving nature of the playing surface. On the same day, the Lions and Bears played in the Silver Dome, on a dry carpet that contributed to Barry Sanders' knee injury.

The answer was actually what the game was buried under: the slick snow. Snow isn't the solution to the dangers of Astro Turf — the torn ligaments and tendons, the torque-broken bones—but a reduction in traction is.

If artificial turf could be made less perfect, so that a player could actually slip on the carpet, so that their grip would give instead of their tissues, there would be far fewer tearing injuries on those fields. Take the Miami-Dallas game. Sure, the footing was terrible, but everyone was on the same footing and it was still a good game.

The problem with changing the carpet is that if there is more give to it, it may tear, leaving gaps that players can catch their feet in, and exposing the concrete just half an inch below the surface. Instead, change the shoes. Now, players wear turf shoes with hard rubber soles molded into a spike pattern that gives them maximum grip in the carpet. Sometimes the grip is so good that a player like Wendell Davis jumps out of his knees, sending his kneecaps into his thighs. Change the shoes; have the players play in tennis shoes, or better yet, cross trainers. With good tread in the sole, the shoes would still provide ample traction for the game, without locking players' feet to the carpet. Trust me, watching sports Thanksgiving weekend would be far more pleasant if we didn't have to watch multiple slow motion replays of players legs breaking and joints separating.

Panther award winners announced

• Field Hockey

The Regional All-American Field Hockey Committee has chosen Nancy Hastings '94 to the Regional All-American First Team. Hastings co-captained the ECAC champion Middlebury field hockey team and led the team in scoring.

Junior midfielders Marnie Virden and Sarah Martin were chosen for the Regional All-American Second Team.

Hastings, Virden and Martin will captain next year's team.

• Football

The Panther football team has three NESCAC All-Stars in its ranks. Senior tri-captain Dave Middleton was named to the All-Star team for the second consecutive year for his work at linebacker. He had 50 primary tackles with 20 assists, 3 pass break-ups, 1 sack and 6 hurries on the season.

Paul Casarico, a senior Defensive Back finished the season with five interceptions and 40 tackles, earning him All-Star recognition.

Junior Winfield Campbell's performance at defensive end has also given him Conference All-Star status. He notched 42 primary tackles, 30 assists, 6 sacks, one fumble recovery and a touchdown in the Panthers 5-3 season finish.

Pagano's romance with basketball and books, page 19

The Middlebury Campus
Sports

Quest for the national champion inconsistent, page 18

Men's basketball exhibits early promise by going 3-1

By Rob Merrill

Men's Basketball	
Middlebury	73
Wesleyan	70

The men's basketball team finished their first week of games with an impressive 3-1 record. While many had expected an early season adjustment period, the Panthers have come out strong and posted victories against St. Lawrence, Clarkson and Wesleyan, losing only to St. Michael's College.

The first two games of the season, a 77-65 win against St. Lawrence and a 91-76 thrashing of Clarkson, followed similar scripts. Middlebury fell behind early in both games, perhaps suffering from opening season jitters. The stabilizing force in both games was a tenacious defense, which created turnovers and easy fast-break opportunities for the men in white.

Center Ari Kriegsman '96 took advantage of St. Lawrence's lack of size in the season opener, netting 17 points and snatching 13 rebounds. The star of the Clarkson game was indisputable: junior shooting guard Jason Prenevost was hotter than summer asphalt, scorching the Golden Knights for 36 points, including an eight for 10 effort from behind the three-point arc.

Coach Russ Reilly was clearly pleased with his team's performance. He characterized both games as "gritty defensive efforts" and was pleased to see such "solid effort from everyone who played." He was particularly happy with the success of the point guard rotation, praising the trio of Mike Roche '97, Mark Sylvester '94 and Sam Sweeney '97. He added that Middlebury was able to play nine to 10 men in both contests, giving the younger players a chance to make some contributions.

Middlebury took their unblemished record to Division II St. Michael's College on Nov. 23. The game was a great chance to play at a high level of competition, but the Panthers could not pull off the upset, falling behind 45-23 by half-time. Middlebury outscored St. Mike's 41-39 in the second half, but that was not nearly enough as they lost 84-64.

Prenevost and team captain Kevin McDonough '94 led the scoring with 20 apiece. Kriegsman chipped in 12, but the rest of the team was a virtual non-factor in terms of point production. The Panthers were also out-rebounded for the first time all season, 45-31. St. Michael's cruised to victory with seven players scoring 6 or more points.

Middlebury rebounded both literally and figuratively against Wesleyan on Nov. 27, winning on the road 73-70.

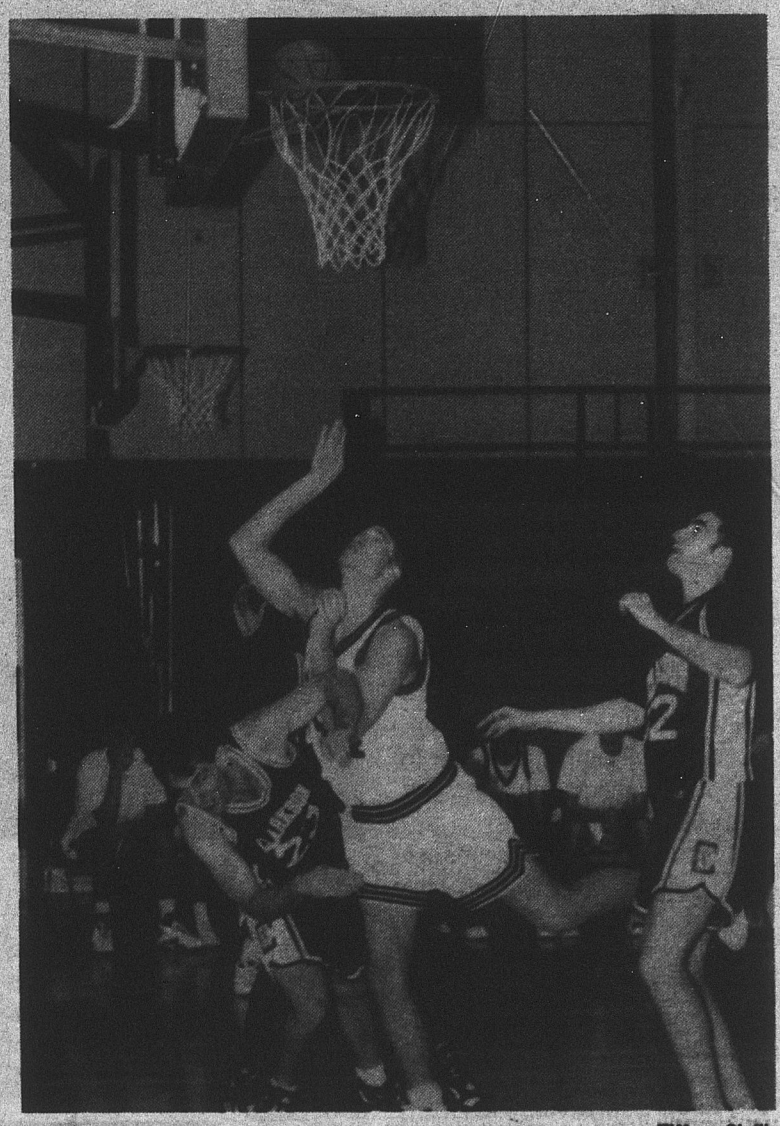
The Panthers won the battle of the boards 40-37 while getting quality play from their five starters: Prenevost and McDonough dumped in 15 points, point guard Roche scored 10 to go with his 4 assists, and big men Kriegsman and Jason Cussler '95 added 21 and 9 points respectively.

Some notable trends emerged from the first four games. Prenevost, McDonough and Kriegsman clearly represent the offensive "Big Three." To date they have accounted for 216 of the team's 305 points, a whopping 70 percent.

The Panthers seem to have the personnel to play the up-tempo style they have been learning. They are more relaxed and actually look more in control when they are not running their "motion offense," but rather, pushing the ball up the floor and creating fast break advantages. In addition, the three victories have been accompanied by an edge in rebounding, proving that you truly cannot win unless you have the ball.

The Panthers' toughest test still lies ahead. They have four games before the fall semester ends, three on the road and one at home. They are in the midst of a five game road swing, with their upcoming schedule pitting them against Amherst on Dec. 4 and Vermont on Dec. 8 before returning to Pepin Gym on Dec. 11 to battle Trinity.

Half of their games before Christmas are against Division I teams (Dartmouth and UVM). There seems to be a general consensus that these teams are unbeatable due to their division status, yet basketball is nothing if not quirky. Middlebury would love to post an upset, but leading scorer Prenevost spoke for the team when he remarked that "if we beat Amherst and Trinity and go into Christmas 5-3, we'll be in very, very good shape."



Tiffany Claflin

Men's basketball started out on a hot streak in November, with victories over St. Lawrence, Clarkson and Wesleyan.

Women swimmers defeat Wesleyan

By Claire Martin

The Middlebury men's and women's swim teams challenged Wesleyan in their season opener on Saturday, November 20. The women staged an impressive come-from-behind victory, their first ever, over Wesleyan, and the men suffered a narrow defeat.

The women's team captured the victory by a mere two point margin in a competition that was so close it came down to the relay event. Middlebury needed to place first and second in the event to win the meet.

"All Wesleyan had to do to win was get second in the relay," Coach Mary Ellen Claffey said, "and that's usually not difficult to do." The women captured both first and second places to win the meet

Panther swimming has been bolstered by a strong class of first year-students. "The class of '97 carries a lot of strength and depth, " Claffey said.

First-year Margaret Rieley's first place finishes in the 50 freestyle and 200 freestyle events are evidence of the promise of this youthful team.

Panther men's swimming "swam very well" according to Claffey, but was unable to defeat a strong Wesleyan men's team.

The men's team shows signs of improvement over last year's fifth place New England finish. "Their times are ahead of last year's," Claffey said, "we just have a few holes to fill."

Sophomore Mike McCollum is working on filling those holes. A competitor in NCAA's last year, McCollum finished strong for the Panthers in the Wesleyan meet, taking first place in both the 200 fly and the 200 backstroke events.

The Panthers, riding high from a successful season opener, host Hamilton tomorrow, Saturday, Nov. 4 at 1 p.m. in Brown Pool.

Disappointing losses frustrate men's hockey

Men's Hockey	
Middlebury	1
AIC	2

By Jeff Bittner

The men's hockey team began the season with three disappointing performances against Bowdoin, Colby and American International College (AIC) on Nov. 19, 20 and 27. By the end of the Thanksgiving break, Middlebury had an 0-3 record to show for their efforts and they clearly need to re-focus their energy on their future.

Traveling to Brunswick for the first game of the regular season, the Panthers were not greeted kindly, falling behind 5-2 in the first period, ultimately losing by a 9-4 margin.

Goals for the Panthers came from Mark Belliveau '97, Mike Anastasio '97, Dave Erickson '96 and senior captain Jamie Wood, but despite their efforts, Bowdoin proved too tough to handle.

The greeting was no warmer in Waterville, where the squad was once again unable to put anything together early on, trailing Colby 4-0 by the end of the first 20 minutes of play. Little improved during the course of the contest, as the Panthers could muster only a single goal in the third period from Joe Dumas '95. Colby added three more en route to a 7-1 blowout victory.

Christina Westfall

Men's hockey gets off to a sluggish start in early season action.

The Panthers' ineffective play in the first period of both games created comfortable leads for their opponents that set the pace for two highly uncharacteristic performances. Middlebury was not only unable to take early leads, but also failed to stay close once they fell behind.

The Panthers hosted AIC after a week of difficult practice that gave head coach Bill Beaney and the team time to work on their offensive and defensive shortcomings. Despite some improvement, the Panthers dropped their third game in a row by a score of 2-1.

After falling behind 1-0, Martin Lachaine '96 tied the score in the first period, assisted by J.S. Cournoyer '96 and Anastasio. This would represent all of Middlebury's offense as they failed to capitalize on several scoring opportunities. The Panthers outshot AIC, but their inability to put the puck in the net proved fatal.

In goal, first-year players Billy Ladd and Joe Branca have both seen time. Ladd has posted a 2.33 goals against average thus far, but neither goalie has gotten much support from the rest of the team.

The team's offensive and defensive improvement will be tested this weekend with home games against Connecticut College and Trinity. The Panthers can begin to climb out of the hole they find themselves in with a strong showing against both clubs.